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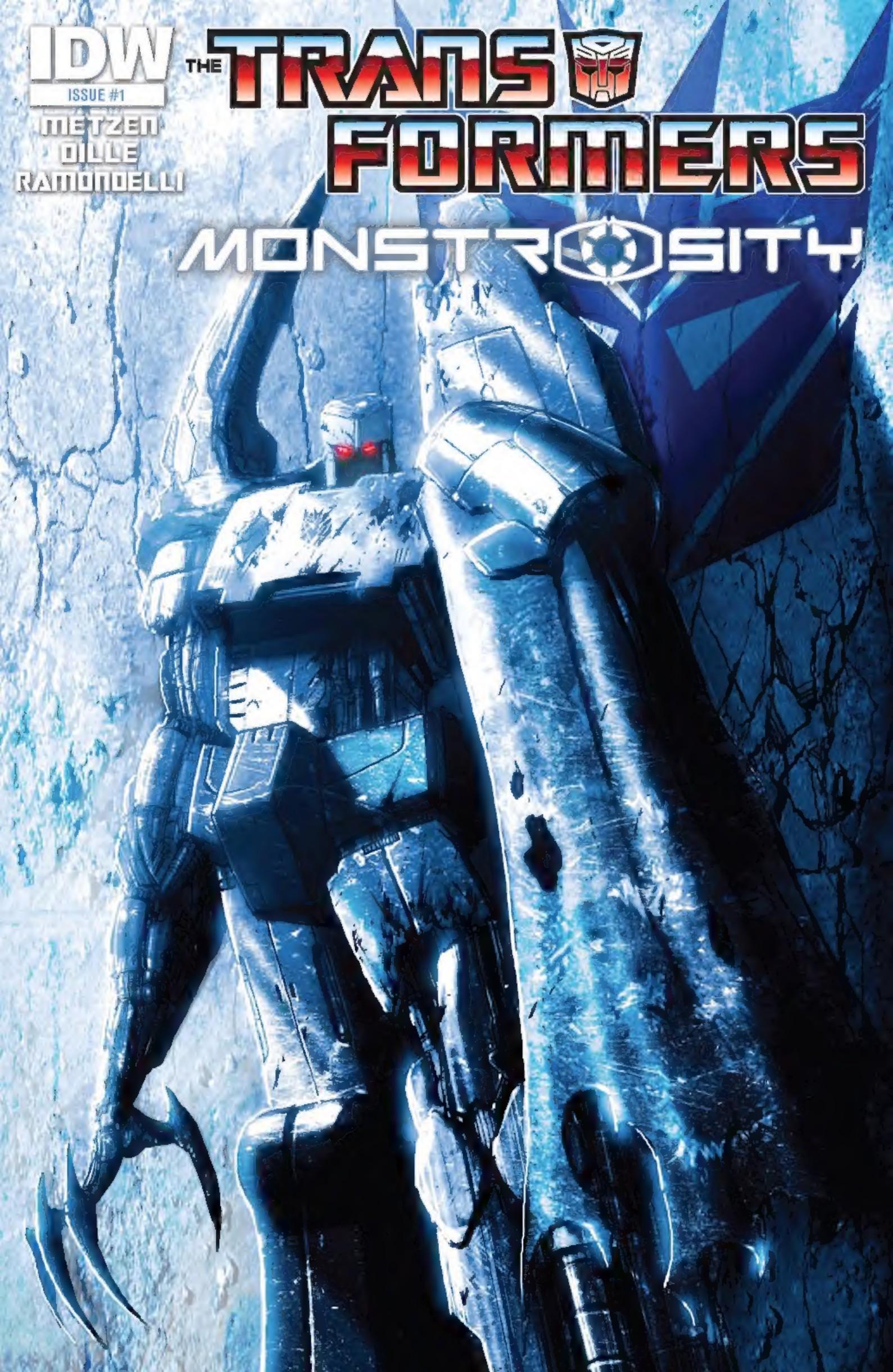
ISSUE #1

THE TRANS



FORMERS

MONSTROSITY



METZEN  
DILLE  
RAMONDELLI

# THE TRANSFORMERS



Long ago, on the planet Cybertron... After eons of despotic rule, the lineage of the cruel and unjust Primes was broken by police officer Orion Pax and the renegade Megatron—leader of the Decepticons. Together, they overthrew Zeta Prime—but Megatron betrayed Orion, leaving him for dead. Orion uncovered the Matrix of Leadership and defeated the Decepticons, freeing Cybertron and becoming Optimus Prime.

But the world's problems are far from over...

## MONSTROSITY

Chapter 1: DERELICTS

Story by: CHRIS METZEN & FLINT DILLE

Art by: LIVIO RAMONDELLI

Letters by: TOM B. LONG

Editor: JOHN BARBER

Special thanks to Hasbro's Aaron Archer, Jerry Juvin, Michael Verret, Ed Lane, Joe Furfaro, Jos Huxley, Andy Schmidt, Heather Hopkins, and Michael Kelly for their invaluable assistance.

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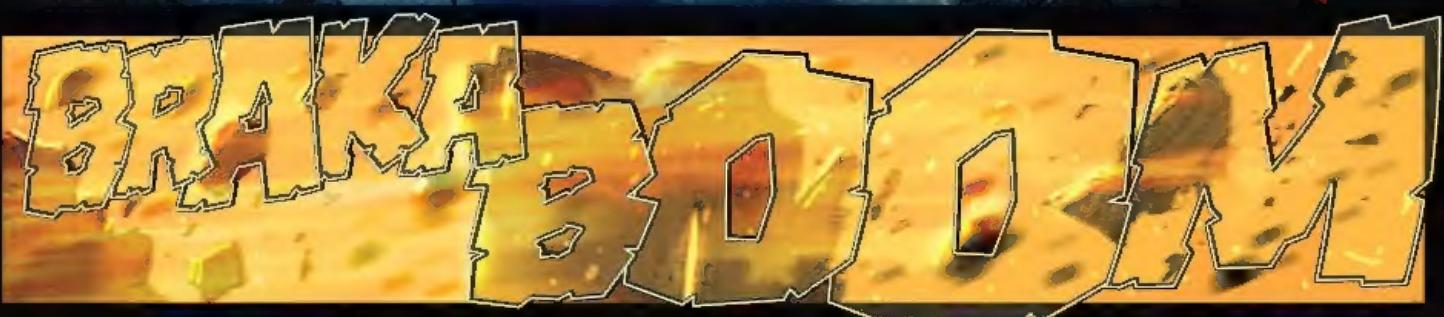
CYBERTRON.

KAON, THE ABANDONED  
DISTRICT OF WRECKAGE ROW.

WELL,  
STRONGBOX,  
I'LL BE GLAD  
WHEN WE DELIVER  
THIS SHIPMENT  
TO IAON. THIS  
NEIGHBORHOOD  
ALWAYS GIVES ME  
THE CREEPS.

C'MON,  
NIGHTSHIFT—  
THERE'S NO ONE  
OUT HERE BUT US.  
AIN'T NOTHIN'  
TO GRIND YOUR  
CLUTCH ABOUT.

YEAH, PAL—  
FAMOUS LAST  
WORD



LET'S GET IT DONE,  
DYNOBOTS! THEY'RE  
OUT COLD, BUT POLICE  
ARRIVE IN THREE  
MINUTES!

IF SWINDLE  
WAS RIGHT ABOUT  
THIS SCORE, WE CAN  
FINALLY AFFORD TO  
GET OFF-WORLD!

STUPID.  
TRUSTING THAT  
DECEPTICON...

SHUT  
UP AND  
MOVE!

CLOCK'S  
TICKING!

CHARGE  
SET!





## METROPLEX. INAUGURAL MEETING OF THE GRAND CONVOCATION.





HE WAS  
CHOSSEN BY  
THE MATRIX,  
ATLAS!  
SHOW SOME  
RESPECT!

EVERYONE  
RELAX!

WE'VE  
FOUGHT  
AMONGST  
OURSELVES  
LONG  
ENOUGH.

DAI ATLAS  
HAS A RIGHT TO  
HIS OPINIONS, BUT  
WE NEED TO START  
TRUSTING EACH  
OTHER AND SOLVING  
THE PROBLEMS  
AHEAD OF US.

WHICH  
PROBLEMS  
ARE YOU  
REFERRED  
TO?



THE GLOBAL ENERGON  
CRISIS YOUR LEADERSHIP  
HAS FAILED TO STEM OR THE  
RECENT RISE OF VIOLENT  
DECEPTICON ATTACKS  
YOUR AUTOBOTS HAVE  
FAILED TO PREVENT?

PROGRESS  
TAKES TIME.  
WE'RE HERE  
TODAY TO FIND  
SOLUTIONS  
TOGETHER.

YOU'RE THE  
ONE POSING  
AS "PRIME" ...



...FIND YOUR OWN  
SOLUTIONS.

DON'T WALK OUT  
ON THIS, ATLAS. ALL  
THE STRIFE WILL HAVE  
BEEN FOR NOTHING  
IF WE DON'T INVEST IN  
EACH OTHER NOW.

VERY WELL,  
OPTIMUS. I  
WILL STAY...



...OUT OF  
RESPECT  
FOR THE  
MATRIX.



## DEEP SPACE.

ARE YOU SURE  
ABOUT THESE  
COORDINATES,  
ASTROTRAIN?

I'M STARTING  
TO THINK WE'RE  
LOST!

TELEMETRY  
SAYS WE'RE CLOSE,  
STARSCREAM.

'COURSE,  
RUMOR HAS IT  
NO ONE'S BEEN  
OUT THIS WAY FOR  
A FEW MILLION  
YEARS...

THIS IS A WASTE OF  
TIME! SCORPONOK—WE  
SHOULD HAVE FINISHED  
THIS BUSINESS BACK  
ON CYBERTRON!

I, FOR  
ONE, AM NOT  
THREATENED BY  
YOUR QUESTIONING.  
STARSCREAM—  
BUT I RULE THE  
DECEPTICONS  
NOW. THIS IS  
MY WILL.

YES, A PUBLIC  
EXECUTION WOULD  
HAVE BEEN CLEAN,  
LESS RISKY—BUT THIS...  
THIS PUNISHMENT  
WILL BECOME  
LEGEND.

I DON'T  
SEE HOW...

BESIDES,  
YOU KNOW  
HOW RESILIENT  
HE CAN BE.

I'M NOT TOO  
WORRIED—

—MEGATRON'S  
SEEN BETTER  
DAYS.

THE NEW  
PRIME SURE DID  
A NUMBER ON HIM.  
NEVER SEEN HIM  
TAKE A BEATING  
LIKE THAT.

PRECISELY.  
DECEPTICONS  
WON'T FOLLOW  
WEAKNESS.

HIS BANISHMENT WILL  
SERVE AS AN OBJECT  
LESSON FOR THOSE STILL  
LOYAL TO HIM. AND, SHOULD  
THEY ATTEMPT TO RESCUE  
HIM FROM THIS PLACE...

...THEY'LL  
BE FORCED  
TO SHARE  
HIS FATE.

GENTLEMEN,  
WE'VE ARRIVED.  
I'LL MAINTAIN HIGH  
ORBIT 'TIL YOU'RE  
READY.

VSSSH

YOU MAY BE RIGHT,  
BUT WE KNOW NOTHING  
OF THIS WORLD... ONLY  
NIGHTMARE MYTHS AND  
SUPERSTITION.



**THE DEATH-WORLD OF JUNKION.**



**METROPLEX, OUTSIDE  
OPTIMUS' QUARTERS.**

WELL, THE CONVOCATION'S UP AND RUNNING. ALL THINGS CONSIDERED, IT COULD HAVE GONE A LOT WORSE.

THERE'S ALWAYS TOMORROW, BUMBLEBEE.

I BELIEVE DAI ATLAS WILL COME AROUND. WE JUST NEED TO PROVE TO HIM THAT WE CAN KEEP THE PEACE.

YEAH, STARTING WITH OUR COUNCIL MEETINGS. SEE YA TOMORROW, BOSS.

LONG DAY AT THE OFFICE?

WHO—?

IT'S GOOD TO SEE YOU AGAIN, MY FRIEND.

I'VE BEEN WATCHING YOU WITH GREAT INTEREST.

FOR SOMEONE BUILT PRIMARILY FOR COMBAT, YOU SEEM TO BE HOLDING YOUR OWN IN THE EQUALLY TREACHEROUS POLITICAL ARENA.

AND DO THEY NOT SERVE YOU?

BUILDING THE CONVOCATION TO SHARE FACTIONAL AUTHORITY WAS A VERY CLEVER TACTIC.

STILL, I THOUGHT OVERTHROWING THE DECEPTICONS WOULD BE THE HARD PART—

—THAT ONCE THE PEOPLE HAD WON THEIR FREEDOM, THEY'D CHOOSE TO STAND UNITED...

USUALLY, IF GIVEN A CHOICE, PEOPLE SEE TO THEIR OWN NEEDS FIRST.

YOU MUST HELP THEM SEE BEYOND THEIR DIVISIONS, OPTIMUS.

AND AS FOR YOUR UNSPOKEN QUESTION—WHETHER OR NOT YOU ARE WORTHY TO CARRY THE MATRIX...

...THAT IS SOMETHING YOU MUST ANSWER FOR YOURSELF.

JUNKION.

NOT DEAD.

BUT BROKEN.

DEFEATED.

BETRAYED...

...BUT UNCONQUERED.

I AM MEGATRON.

BOUNTY  
FROM THE  
HEAVENS.  
FEAST FOR  
KINGS.

FELL FROM  
THE SKY ON  
FLIGHTLESS  
WINGS!

I AM SUPREME.

LET'S  
DO THIS.

TO BE CONTINUED!

IDW

ISSUE #2

THE

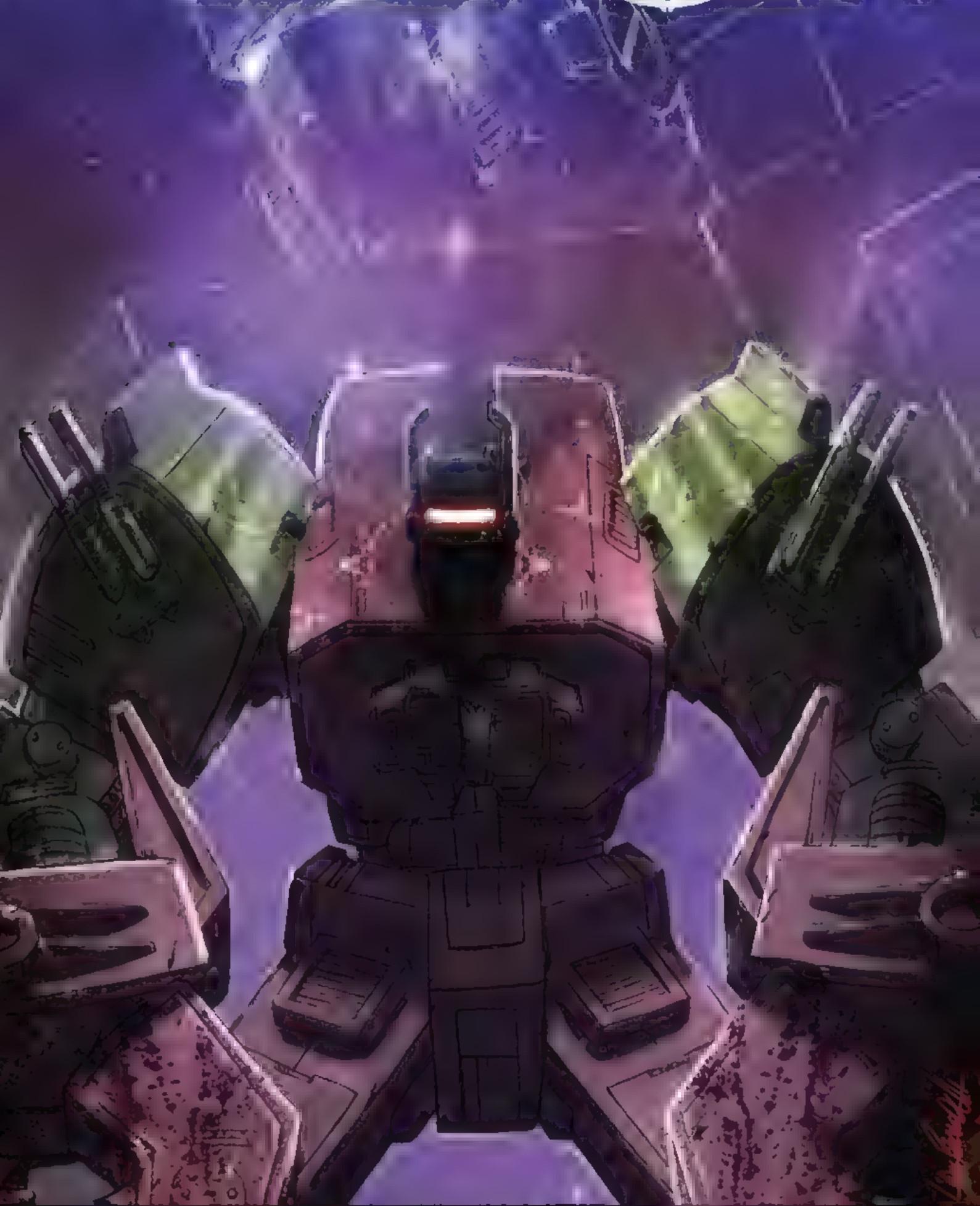
TRANSFORMERS



METZEN  
DILLE  
RAMONDELLI

TRANSFORMERS

MONSTROSITY



# THE TRANSFORMERS

Long ago, on the planet Cybertron, the Autobots were a people of despotistic rule. Optimus Prime, the leader of the Autobots, takes control of the planet after the Decepticons' take-over of Cybertron. After the former leader Megatron and his Decepticon army worked to oust him, Grimlock joined the Decepticons in their horrifying secret...

## MONSTROSITY

Chapter 2: DEFILED

Story by: CHRIS METZEN & FLINT DILLE

Art by: LIVIO RAMONDELLI

Letters by: TOM B. LONG

Editor: JOHN BARBER

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## CYBERTRON. THE RUST BUCKET.

WE GOTTA GET SOME CREDIT'S SOON, FELLAS.

I GOT A LEAD ON A JOB THAT COULD PAY OUT BUT IT'S DEFINITELY HIGHER PROFILE THAN OUR USUAL WORK.

MORE RISK

WHAT DOES IT MATTER IF WE GET BUSTED, SWOOP?

PRISON AIN'T SO BAD IT'S NOT LIKE THIS IS LIVIN'

IS IT, GRIMLOCK?

YEAH, YOUR LEADERSHIP'S COMIN' UP SHORT LATELY

GOT JS HUFFIN' AROUND PLACE TO PLACE BARELY ENOUGH CREDITS TO SCRAPE BY

SOMETIMES, BOSS.

...I THINK YOU LIKE IT THIS WAY

YOU WANNA PUSH ME, SLAG?

YOU REALLY WANNA PUSH ME???

DAMMIT, WILL YOU TWO KNOCK IT OFF?

YOU FORGET WHAT HAPPENS WHEN WE LOSE CONTROL AND CHANGE MODE???

PULL IT TOGETHER!

LIKE I SAID, I GOT A HIGH-PROFILE LEAD TO CHASE DOWN

BEATS KILLING EACH OTHER, RGH?

WHAT'S THE JOB?

REFINERY HEIST

GIVEN THE BIG ENERGON SHORTAGE, BUYER'S PAYING TRIPLE-SCALE

WHAT DO YA SAY BOSS?

CONTACT SNARL AND SLUDGE

WE'RE IN.

**JUNKION.  
THE SCRAP WASTES.**

EVEN WHEN NOTHING  
ELSE REMAINS BUT  
ASH AND RUST...

THERE ARE  
ALWAYS THOSE  
WILLING TO FIGHT

THOSE WHO THINK  
THEMSELVES STRONG.

WHO THINK  
THEMSELVES

...SAVAGE.





**CYBENTRON,  
THE TORAXXIS  
MEGA-REFINERY.**

IT'S LIKE WE FIGURED, BOSS.

NO DRONE SENTRY'S IN SIGHT, BUT CUTTIN' THROUGH THAT PERMACRETE WALL'S GONNA TAKE TIME WE DON'T HAVE

SIT TIGHT, SLAG

WRECKING BALL'S INBOUND!

SNOOP?

DROPPING HIM NOW, GRIMLOCK!

READY SLUDGE?

HEH FUN.

BOMBS AWAY!



## KOLKULAR, DECEPTICON HEADQUARTERS.

DECEPTCONS, THE MIGHTY MEGATRON HAS FALLEN!

BUT, I,  
**SCORPONOK**  
SHALL LEAD YOU TO VICTORY!

WHO PUT HIM IN CHARGE?

WHAT WAS THERE A VOTE OR SOMETHING?

HE'S PRETTY BIG

I AIN'T CHALLENGIN' M

MEGATRON'S VISION OF "UNIFICATION THROUGH CONTROL" WAS UNPRECEDENTED BUT HE HIMSELF LACKED THE DISCIPLINE TO BRING IT TO FRUIT ON

WE HAVE ALL PAID THE HEAVY COST OF HIS PRIDE.

AS PUNISHMENT, I BANISHED HIM TO JUNKION.

AIN'T THAT PLACE JUST A MYTH?

LET'S SEE... DOES A DISTANT DEATH WORLD LITTERED WITH JUNK-ZOMBIES AND SCRAP-EATING MONSTERS SOUND REAL TO YOU?

WILL YOU IDIOTS SHUT UP?

ANY OF YOU STUPID LOYAL TO MEGATRON ARE FREE TO SEEK HIM OUT

BUT AS THERE IS NO RETURNING FROM JUNKION, YOU WILL CERTAINLY SHARE HIS FATE

HA-HAHA

WHO DARES?

LOOK AT YOU,  
DECEPTICONS...  
BOWING TO THIS  
SMOOTH TALKING  
COWARD.

YOU FORGOT  
THAT WE RULE  
BY FEAR—WE'RE  
NOT RULED  
BY IT!

MEGATRON  
BLEW OUR ONE  
BEST SHOT  
AT KILLING  
IACON...

AND ALL  
YOU RAMRODS  
COULD DO WAS  
BANISH HIM?

EASY FOR YOU  
TO SAY HUN-GAR—  
YOU COULDN'T EVEN BE  
BOthered TO FIGHT  
ALONGSIDE US.

BUT I'M SURE IF  
YOU HAD YOU AND  
YOUR TERRORCONS  
WOULD HAVE HAD THE  
NEW PRIME SHAKING  
IN HIS SHOCK  
ABSORBERS.

I SEE RIGHT  
THROUGH YOU,  
SCORPONOK.

MAKE NO MISTAKE,  
WE'LL HANDLE THIS  
NEW PRIME SOON  
ENOUGH.

BUT FOR  
NOW WE'RE  
GOING TO TAKE  
CARE OF THE  
BUSINESS  
YOU WERE  
TOO AFRAID  
TO FINISH.

ARE YOU CHALLENGING  
MY LEADERSHIP,  
TERRORCON?

I'D HAVE TO  
ACKNOWLEDGE  
IT, FIRST.

GENTLEMEN,  
PERHAPS WE  
SHOULD SAVE  
IT FOR THE  
AUTOBOTS...

SHUT YOUR FACE,  
STARScream...

OR I'LL  
EAT YOU

AS LONG AS  
MEGATRON LIVES  
OUR ENEMIES WILL  
NOT FEAR US.

SO THE  
TERRORCONS  
WILL GO TO THIS  
JUNKION—AND  
END HIM.

BUT,  
SCORPONOK—  
WHEN WE GET  
BACK

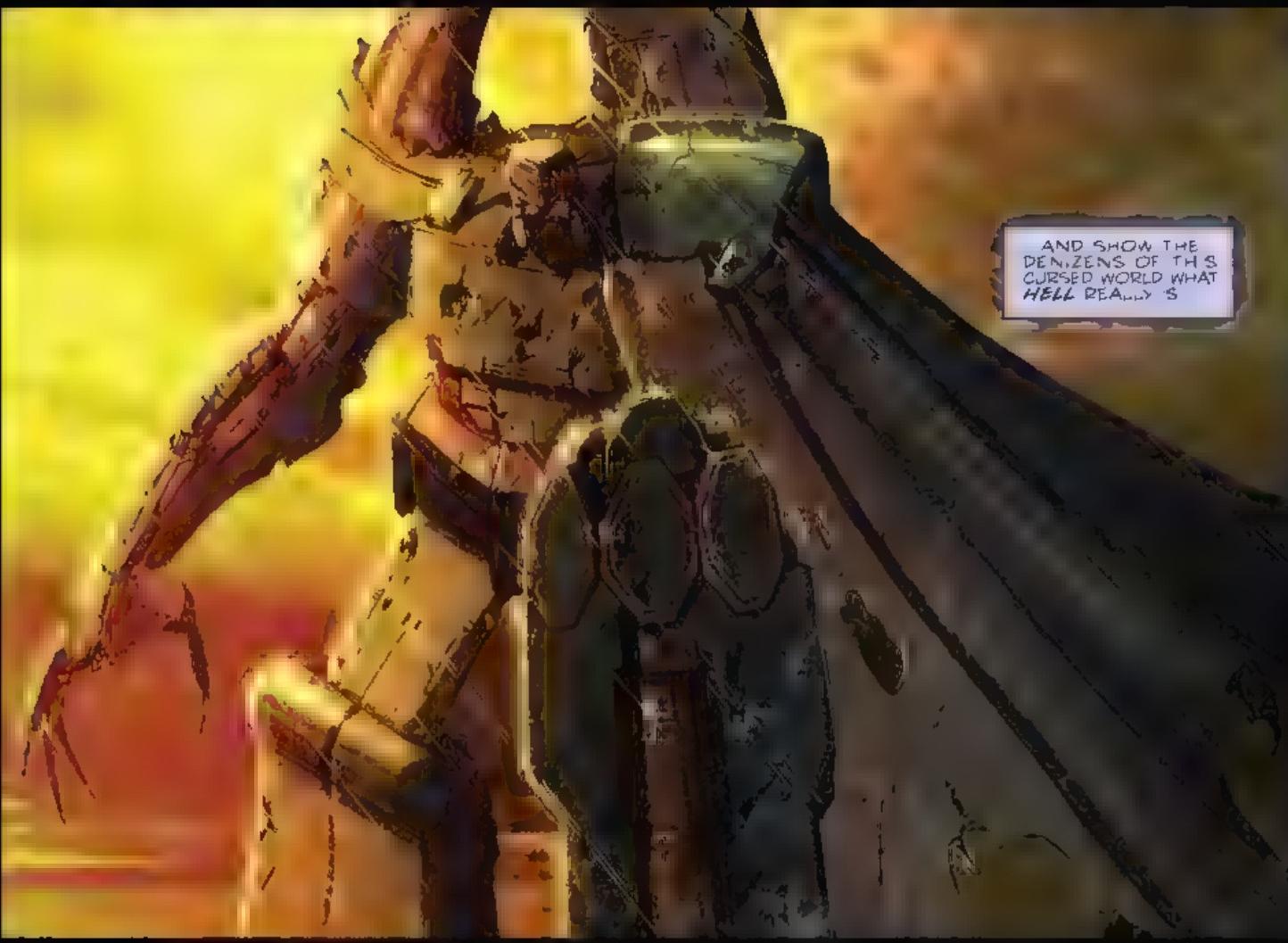
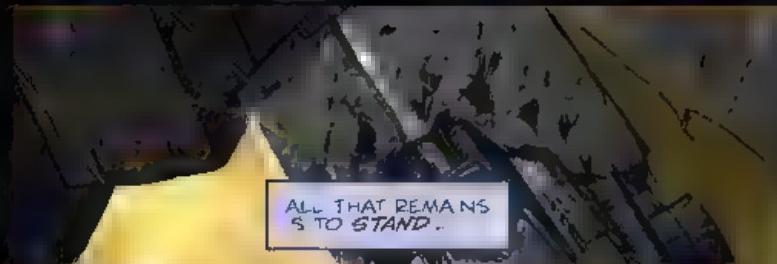
WE'LL GIVE  
YOU SOMETHING  
TO BE REALLY  
AFRAID OF.

JUNKION.

SYNAPTEK SERVOS  
BARELY RESPONSIVE

AUTONOMIC  
CALIBRATORS  
ARE SHOT

CAN BARFLY  
FOCUS. OR  
SHUT OUT  
THE AGONY.



MEANWHILE: TORAXXIS MEGA-REFINERY.

THESE DAMN DRONES JUST KEEP COMIN'!

THEY'RE NETWORKED, BUT IT'S A SHORT-RANGE SIGNAL PULSE!

THEN WHOEVER'S CONTROLLIN' 'EM MUST BE NEARBY!

WE BETTER FIND HIM, FAST!

THERE'S MORE DRONES MOVIN' IN ON OUR LEFT!

THERE'S NO NEED TO SEEK ME OUT

AND THERE'S NOWHERE LEFT FOR YOU TO HIDE. THE DRONES RESPOND TO MY COMMANDS. AND I HAVE MANY, MANY MORE.

YOU ARE IMPOSSIBLY OVERTURNED. YOU THREE MISCREANTS MAY AS WELL —

WHO SAID ANYTHING ABOUT "THREE"?

-URK...

CHK

THE DRONES ARE DEACTIVATING. CLUTTIN' IT A BIT CLOSE THERE, BOSS.

HEH. YOU MAKE GUT JOKE

DON'T HURT YOURSELF, SLUDGE...

BOSS— SNARL'S STILL RUNNING LATE WITH OUR TANKER

WHAT NOW?

"WHAT NOW" IS WE HUNKER DOWN AND PREP FOR A LONG NIGHT

WE GOT FUEL TO STEAL.

TO BE CONTINUED!

IDW

THE TRANSFORMERS



MERZEN  
DILLE  
RAMONDELLI

TRANSFORMERS

MONSTROOSITY



# THE TRANSFORMERS

Long ago, on the planet Cybertron, while Optimus Prime tried to unite the populous, Ironhide found his new government in Scorponok's lair, under control of the Decepticons, exiling them to the leader Megatron, on the seemingly dead planet. Meanwhile, Grimlock and his renegade Dinobots plan to make a big score in order to save their planet.

## MONSTROSITY

Chapter 3: FREES OF DARKNESS

Story by: CHRIS METZEN & FLINT DILLE

Art by: LIVIO RAMONDELLI

Letters by: TOM B. LONG

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**EYBERTRON**  
**THE TORAXXIS MEGA-REFINERY.**



# JUNKION - THE HOWLING WASTES.

THIS CURSED WORLD NEVER CEASES TO AMAZE ME EVEN THE STORMS HERE CAN KILL

THE IONIZED ACID RAIN BURNS THROUGH MY PLATING

I WANT TO KEEP MOVING BUT IT SEEMS FINDING SHELTER AND WAITING OUT THE STORM ARE MY ONLY Viable ALTERNATIVES.

STILL, I SENSE A MALEVOLENCE WITHIN THIS RUSTED HULK

COME, WANDERER... STEP INTO THE DARKNESS...

WHO'S THERE? SHOW YOURSELF!

YOU'VE COME BORN upon THE WINDS OF THE STORM. WANDERER, TO THIS VERY MOMENT

WHO... WHAT ARE YOU?

AN EXILE, LIKE YOURSELF

A KING WITHOUT A THRONE.

I AM CALLED PENTIUS.

I HAVE BEEN MAROONED HERE FOR HUNDREDS OF YEARS TRAPPED WITHIN THIS GNARLED WRECKAGE

BUT THE DARKNESS... IT TOLD ME YOU WOULD COME

COME?

MY ONLY CONCERN IS FINDING A WAY OFF THIS DAMNED WORLD

THE WAY'S DARK AND TWISTING, WANDERER... FRAUGHT WITH GREAT DANGER...

MEGATRON FEARS NOTHING.

PERHAPS, BUT TO SURVIVE THIS MONSTROUS WORLD...

YOU MUST BECOME MONSTROUS YOURSELF

**KOLKULAR,  
CENTRAL  
COMMAND  
CENTER.**

YOUR PRETTY  
SPEECHES WILL  
ONLY KEEP THE RANK  
AND FILE DAZZLED  
FOR SO LONG,  
**SCORPONOK**

SOONER OR  
LATER, YOU'LL  
HAVE TO BACK UP  
YOUR TALK WITH  
REAL ACTION

I DO SO  
VALUE YOUR WIT  
AND INSIGHT  
**STARGREEM**

I CAN'T  
MAG ME WHY  
MEGATRON KEPT  
YOU AT ARM'S  
LENGTH

HE NEVER HAD  
MUCH TRUST FOR  
POLITICIANS

STILL, I AGREE W TH  
YOUR ASSESSMENT  
THE TIME TO STRIKE  
HAS COME

SOUNDWAVE  
REPORTS THAT  
THE NEW PRIME  
HAS FORMED A  
CONVOCATION OF  
VARIOUS FACTION  
LEADERS.

AS USUAL,  
THEY CAN'T AGREE  
ON THE COLOR OF  
ENGINE GRIME BUT  
THE ONE IN THAT YE  
THEY DO VALUE IS  
THE IMMEDIATE  
REESTABLISHMENT OF  
POWER AND CIVIL  
SERVICES TO THE  
TURUS-STATES

THAT'S LAUGHABLE,  
GIVEN THE ENERGON  
SHORTAGE ZETA'S  
VAMPARC WEAPONS  
DRAINED JACON'S  
EMERGENCY  
RESERVES.\*

WHERE'S  
THE PRIME?  
I THINK HE'S  
GOING TO  
GET THE POWER?

THAT'S THE  
QUEST ON,  
EXACTLY

\*SEE TRANSFORMERS: AUTOCRACY!

AND THE ANSWER  
IS THIS—THE  
**TORAXXIS MEGA-**  
**REFINERY**

IT'S REMOTE,  
LIGHTLY DEFENDED—AND  
PUTS OUT NEARLY EIGHT  
BILLION MEGLITERS OF  
REFINED ENERGON PER  
PRODUCTION CYCLE

IT'S  
PERFECT  
FOR US.

THIS ISN'T  
JUST ABOUT  
STEALING  
ENERGON.

VERY OBSERVANT.  
THE FUEL IS USEFUL TO  
US, CERTAINLY BUT ONCE  
WE'VE THROWN GLOBA-  
ENERGON PRODUCT ON  
INTO CHAOS, THE PRIME'S  
NEW CONVOCATION WILL  
TEAR TSELF APART  
OVER THE SCRAPS.

AND WITHOUT  
THE FACTIONS  
BACKING THEM...  
THE AUTOBOTS  
WILL BE EASY  
PREY.

METROPLEX,  
AUTOBOT  
SPARRING  
ARENA

FITTING YOU  
WOULD REQUEST TO  
MEET HERE IN THIS  
SPARRING CHAMBER,  
OPTIMUS

THOUGH I'VE  
OFTEN WONDERED  
WHETHER YOUR MORAL  
HIGH GROUND IS STILL  
VISIBLE THROUGH THE  
RED HAZE OF COMBAT

JUST

BLOW

TRYING  
TO KEEP  
MY EDGE,  
DAI ATLAS

I THINK IT'S  
IMPORTANT  
THAT WE  
TALK—THAT WE  
UNDERSTAND  
EACH OTHER.

MELEE  
SEQUENCE  
EIGHTEEN,  
CONCLUDED

I AM NOT  
A TYRANT LIKE  
ZETA AND YOU  
KNOW IT'S HARDER  
TO KEEP THE PEACE  
THAN FIGHT A WAR

BUT I WILL FIGHT TO  
PROTECT OUR PEOPLE  
TO DO THAT, I NEED  
SOLDIERS—AND I  
NEED THEM NOW

I NEED RECRUITS WITH INTEGRITY  
AND CHARACTER—'BOTS THAT  
YOU AND YOUR CIRCLE OF  
LIGHT CAN REACH.

THE  
DECEPTICONS  
ARE WATCHING  
ALL OF US.  
ATLAS!

I WON'T SEND  
MY FOLLOWERS  
TO DIE FOR THE  
SAKE OF YOUR CRUSADE

IF THEY CONFUSE  
YOUR PACIFISM FOR  
WEAKNESS, THEY'LL HIT  
US WORSE THAN BEFORE!

PACIFISM?

MELEE  
SEQUENCE  
NINETEEN,  
COMMENCING

HAAA!

YOU TELL ME  
TO UNDERSTAND  
ME, OPTIMUS?

I AM  
FAMILIAR  
WITH COMBAT.  
I HAVE SEEN  
FIRSTHAND THE  
TERrible COST OF  
UNRESTRAINED  
HATRED.

VIOLENCE  
BEGETS ONLY  
VIOLENCE  
WHAT YOU CALL  
PACIFISM

I CALL  
PATRIOTISM

SPARRING

SUPERNATURAL

JUNKION.

THERE MUST BE  
A SPACEPORT  
I CAN REACH

THERE ARE NO  
SETTLEMENTS ON  
THIS WORLD.

AS FAR AS I  
CAN DETERMINE,  
THE ONLY SAFE  
PASSAGE THROUGH  
THE IONIZED  
ATMOSPHERE IS  
THROUGH THE EYE  
OF THE STORM  
ITSELF

AT ITS BASE  
LIES THE PILLAR  
OF RUST—A  
MASSIVE MOUND  
OF WRECKED SHIPS  
AND DETRITUS.

IT IS  
THERE  
YOU MUST  
GO

HOW DO  
YOU KNOW  
THIS?

MY SHIP'S  
TOPOGRAPHICAL  
SCHEMATICS

I'VE HAD  
LITTLE ELSE  
TO OCCUPY MY  
MIND FOR THE  
PAST CENTURIES,  
SO I MEMORIZED  
EVERY PEAK AND  
CRAIG OF THIS  
WASTELAND

I HAVE  
SPIED TS  
COMINGS  
AND GOINGS  
FROM AFAR

THEN THERE  
HAVE BEEN  
OTHERS?  
TRAVELERS  
WITH SHIPS?

VERY  
FEW

WHY WOULD  
ANYONE VENTURE  
TO THIS FORSAKEN  
PLACE?

TO HUNT,  
OF COURSE. TO  
BE TESTED.

EVERYTHING  
ABOUT THIS  
WORLD IS  
CRUEL AND  
UNMERCIFUL.

IT IS A PLACE  
OF TERRIBLE  
PURITY WHERE  
ONLY THE STRONG  
AND UNMERCIFUL  
CAN SURVIVE

YOU MUST  
FACE TS  
CHALLENGE.

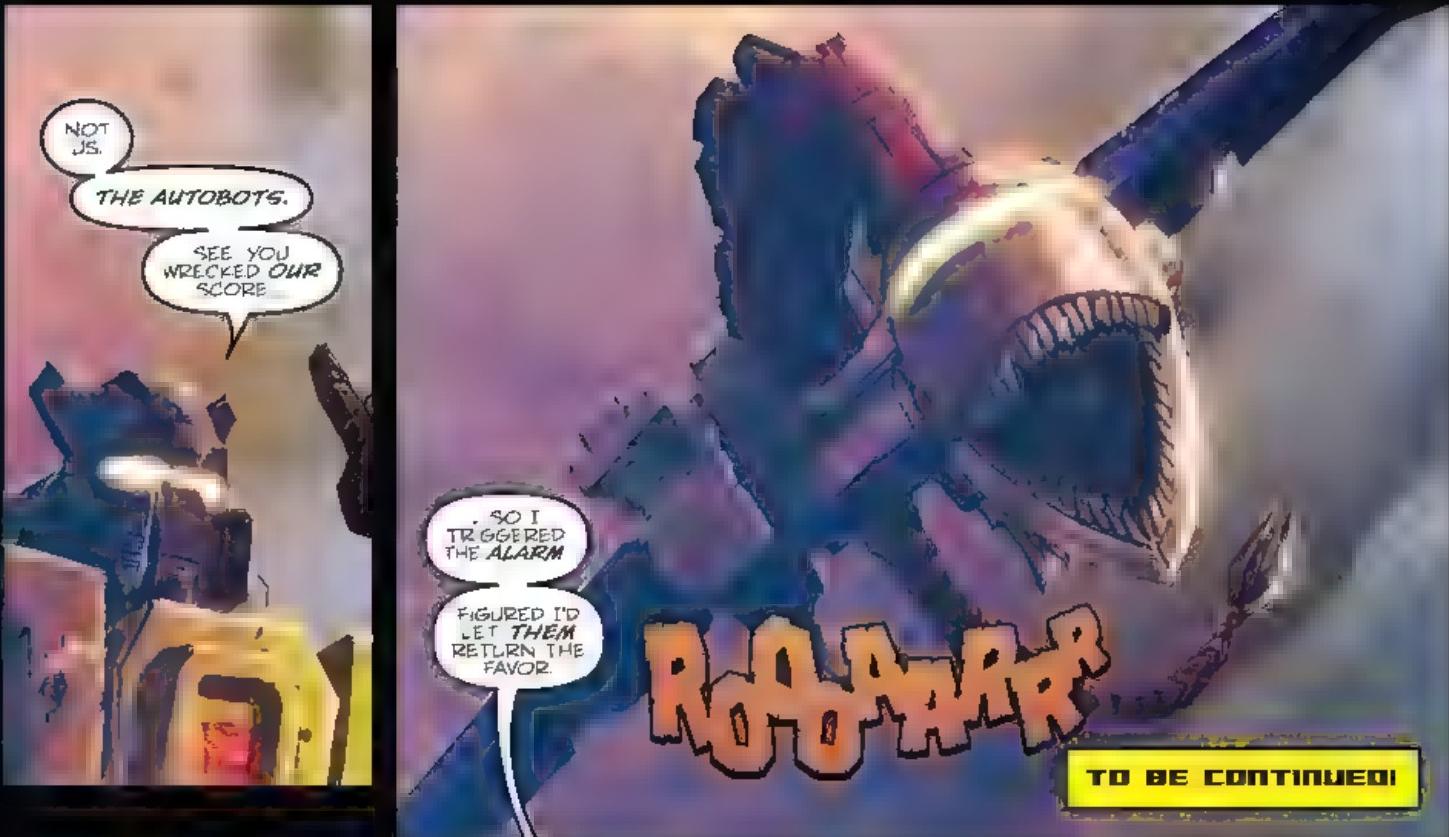
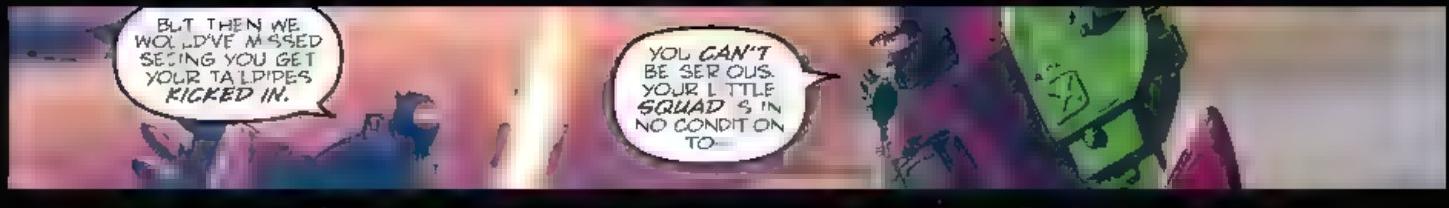
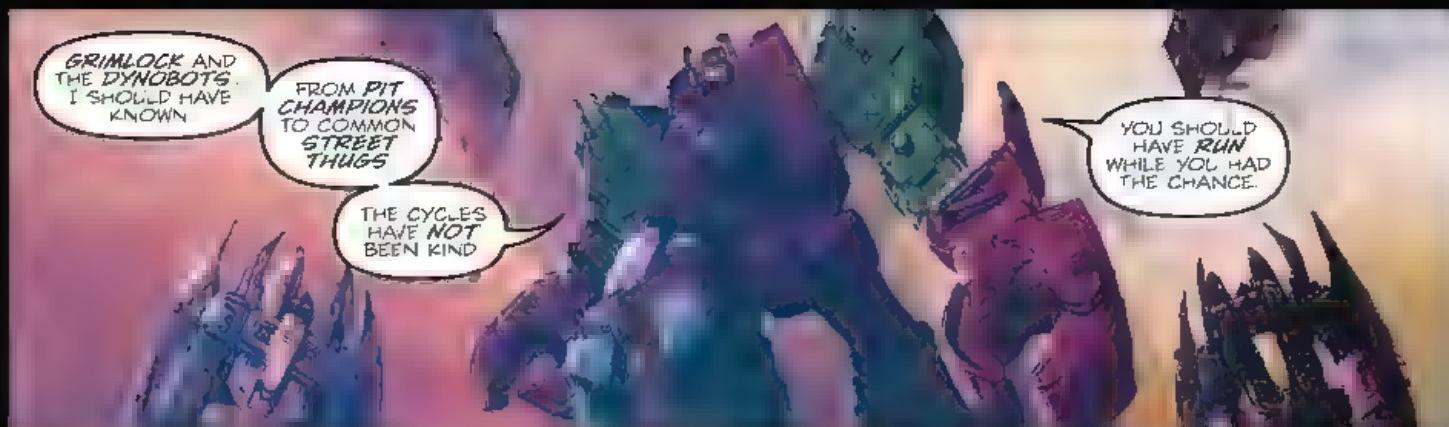
...OR BE  
DEVOURIED  
BY IT

YOU'RE  
FREEING  
ME?

GWAAFFEEK







IDW

ISSUE #4

THE

TRANS



FORMERS

MONSTROUSITY



METZEN  
DILLE  
RAMONDELLI

# THE TRANSFORMERS



Long ago, in the early days  
of the war on Cybertron...

Exiled to the planet Takion, Megatron makes an unusual alliance with a creature called Pentius as he tries to find a passage to Earth. Back on Cybertron, Grimlock and his renegade Dinobots raid an energon refinery—and are confronted by Scorponok and the Decepticons. With his options running out, Grimlock swallows his pride and calls in the Autobots!

## MONSTROSITY

Chapter 4: RAGE

Story by: CHRIS METZEN & FLINT DILLE

Art and Cover by: LIVIO RAMONDELLI

Letters by: TOM B. LONG

Editor: JOHN BARBER

Special thanks to Hasbro's Aaron Archer, Jerry Jickie, Michael Verret, Ed Lane, Joe Farina, Joe Murday, Andy Schmidt, Heather Neupius, and Michael Kelly for their invaluable assistance.

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**THE TORAXXIS MEGA-REFINERY  
DAWN.**



## WITHIN THE REFINERY.

I'M TRACKING  
MULTIPLE  
HOSTILES  
(IN PURSUIT  
GR MLOCK!)

DECEPT CONS  
AND ALTOBOTS.  
WE NEED TO GET  
OUT OF HERE!

DO YOU  
EVEN KNOW  
WHERE YOU'RE  
GOING?

INTO THE  
BELLY  
OF THE  
BEAST.

YOU BETTER  
HAVE A DAMN  
GOOD PLAN  
BOSS.

I'M TRED  
OF RUNNIN  
FROM THOSE  
FOOLS UP  
THERE.

WE'RE NOT  
RUNNIN  
SLAG. WE'RE  
DRAWING  
THEM IN.

END OF  
THE LINE,  
DYNOBOTS.

BLITZWING  
YOU MAY FIRE  
AT WILL.

MY  
PLEASURE  
BOSS.

HIDING BEHIND  
YOUR BIG GUNS  
SCORPONOK?

YOU'VE LOST  
YOUR BEAR NGS  
SINCE OUR  
ARENA DAYS...

YOU WANT  
ME DEAD...

YER GONNA  
HAVE TO  
EARN IT

GLADLY.

## JUNKION, THE CORRODED SHORE

THE ACID SEA LIES  
BETWEEN US  
AND THE  
PILLAR OF RUST

IT'S CROSSING  
WILL BE  
PERILOUS.

FEELING BRAVE,  
WANDERER?

CAREFUL,  
PENTIUS.  
I TOLD YOU  
BEFORE,  
I FEAR  
NOTHING.

WE  
SHALL  
SEE

THESE ACID  
WATERS CAN  
CORRODE EVEN  
YOUR GRAND  
BRAVADO

YOU'D  
BEST HOPE  
NOT

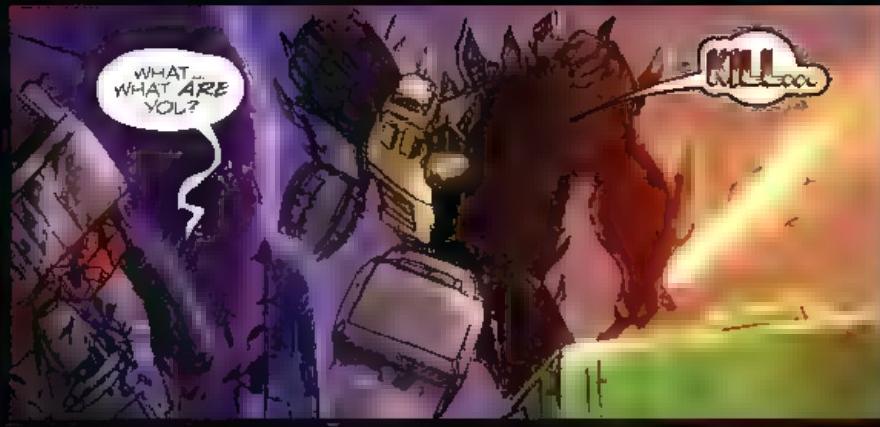
THE CHAN  
ASSURES THAT  
IF I SINK INTO ITS  
DEPTHES, YOU'LL  
FOLLOW

THEN IT  
SEEMS WE TWO  
ARE BOUND TO  
WHATEVER FATE  
AWAITS US.

BEWARE!  
SOMETHING  
STIRS BENEATH  
THE SURFACE.  
BRACE  
YOURSELF!

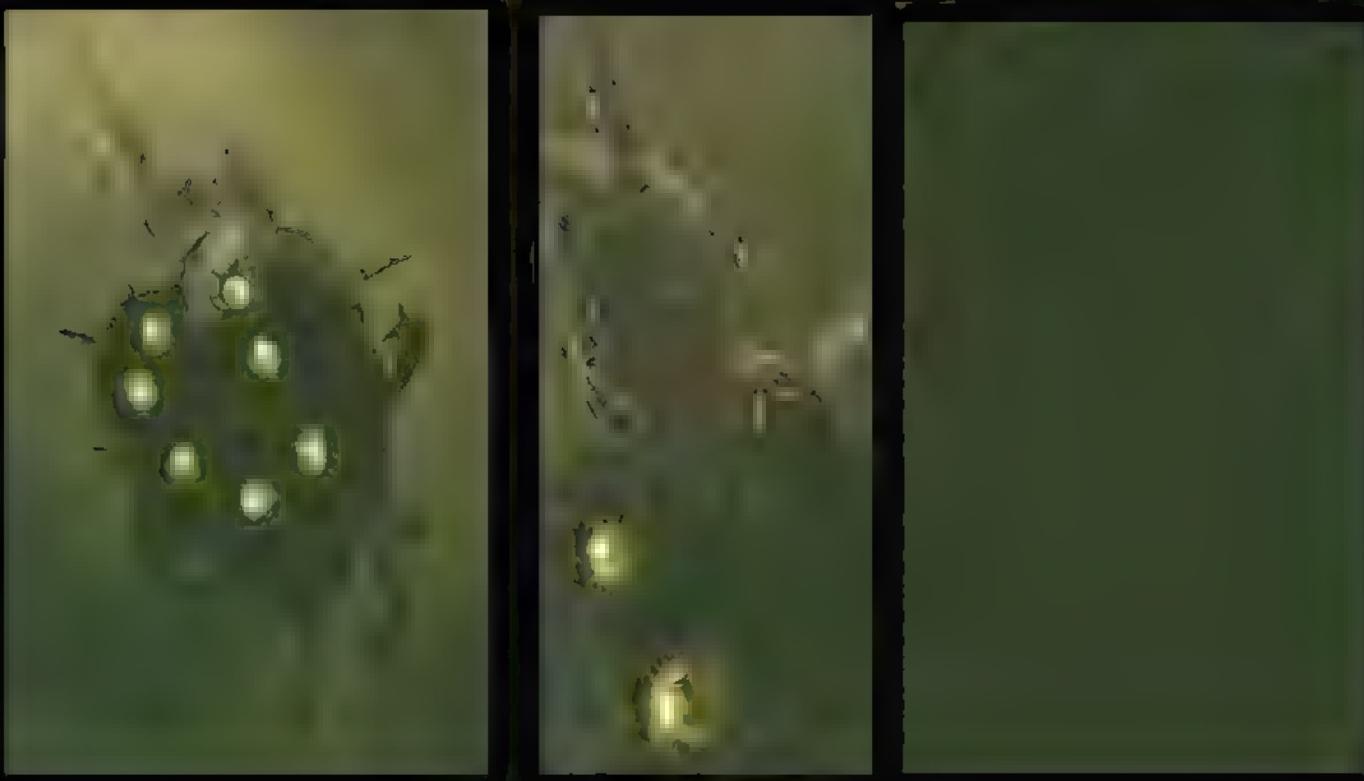


CYBERTRON.





JUNKION. THE ACID SEA.



**CYBERTRON.  
DEEP WITHIN  
THE REFINERY.**

I KNOW WHO YOU ARE, GRIMLOCK

YOU AND YOUR TEAM HAVE BEEN OFF THE GRID FOR A LONG TIME - BUT YOUR FILE DOESN'T SAY ANYTHING ABOUT HAVING AN ALT-MODE LIKE THAT.

WHAT HAVE YOU DYNOBOTS GOTTEN YOURSELVES INTO?

THAT IS A LONG STORY

ALL YOU NEED TO KNOW IS THAT I CAN'T BE CONTROLLED

THE LONGER WE STAY HERE, THE MORE WE ENDANGER EVERYONE

YOU HAVE TO LET US GO.

I CAN'T DO THAT

REGARDLESS OF YOUR ALLEGIANCES, YOU AND YOUR SOLDIERS POSE AS GREAT A THREAT AS THESE DECEPTICONS. YOU'RE ALL UNDER ARREST!

WAIT, OPTIMUS. IF WHAT HE SAYS IS TRUE THEN PERHAPS IT IS BEST IF YOU SET THEM FREE?

GIVE THEM SAFE PASSAGE OFF-WORLD - THERE MAY BE A PEACEFUL WAY TO DIFFUSE -

THEY BROKE THE LAW ATLAS

CIVIL ORDER TEETERS ON THE BRINK. I'M ALL OUT OF CONCESSIONS

IF THAT'S HOW IT'S GONNA BE...

THEN THERE'S NOTHIN' LEFT TO LOSE!

THE FUSION-REGULATOR!

YOU AREN'T YOU WOULDN'T.

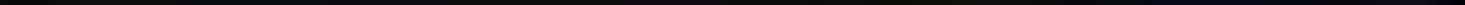
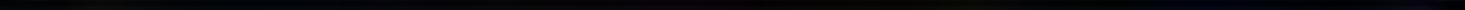
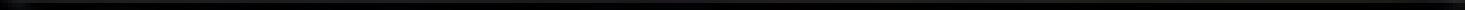
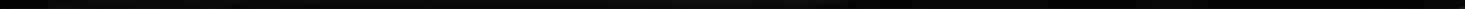
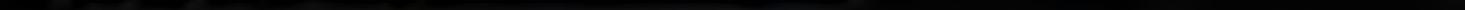
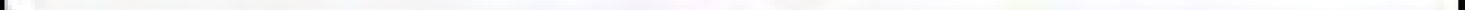
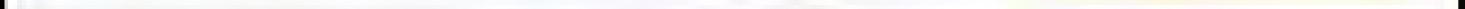
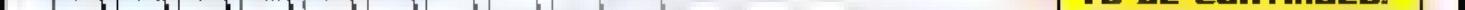
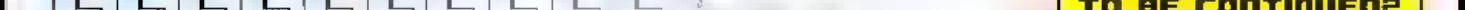
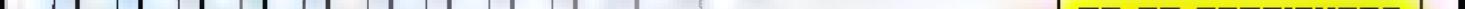
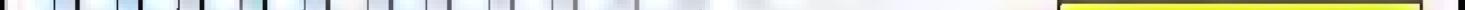
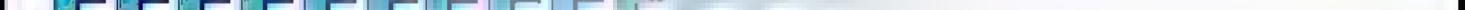
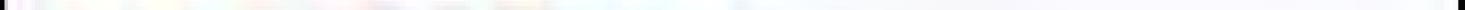
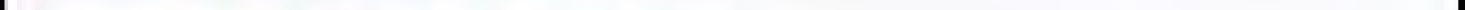
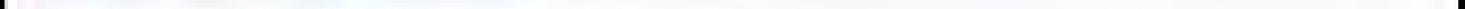
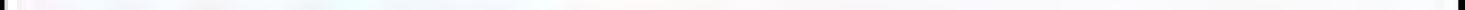
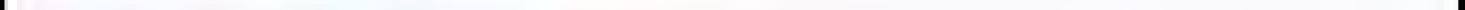
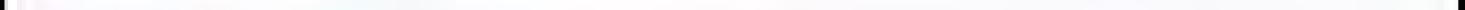
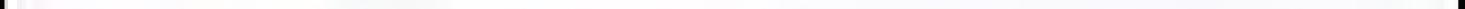
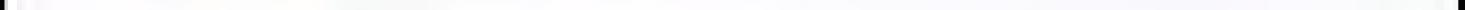
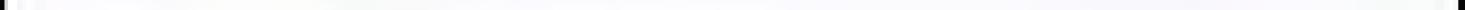
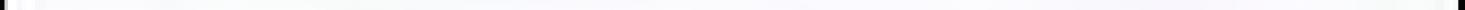
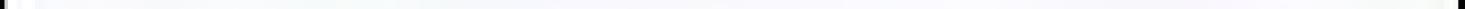
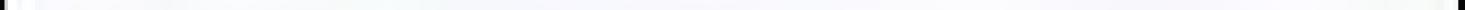
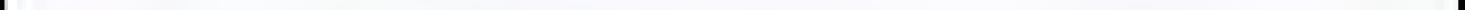
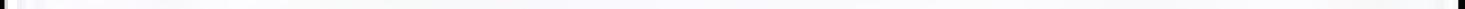
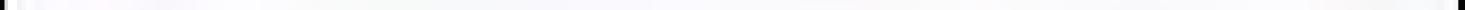
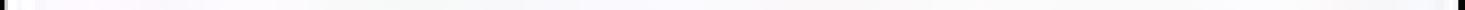
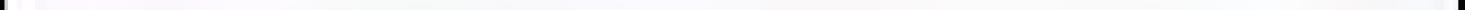
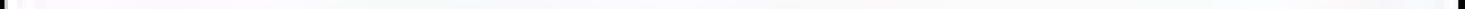
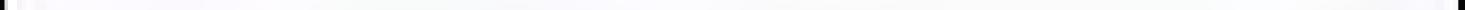
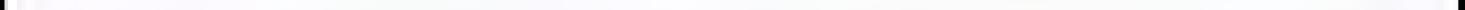
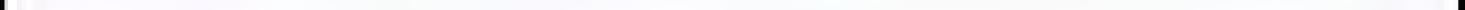
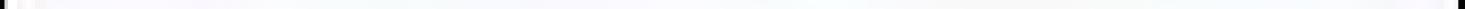
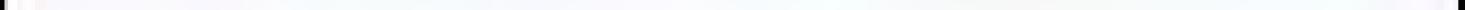
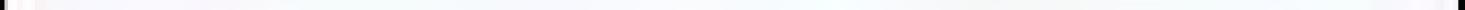
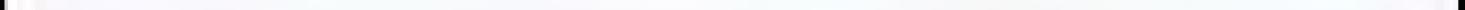
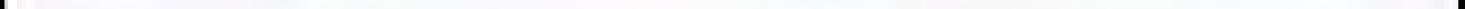
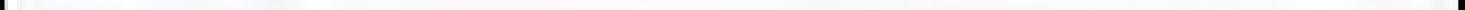
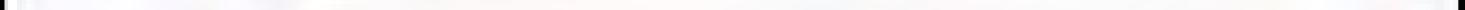
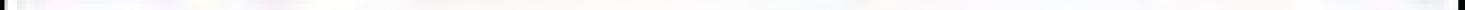
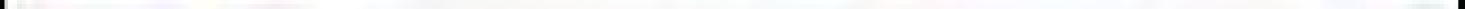
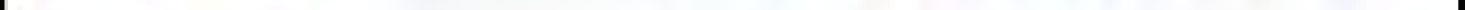
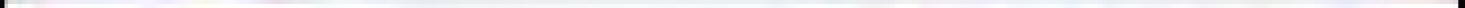
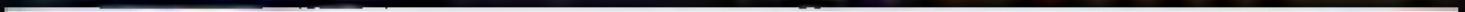
THERE'S NO CYBERTRON LEFT FOR US ANYMORE

AND WE JUST CAN'T GET FREE OF IT

... I'M SO SICK OF YOUR PETTY Factions AND YOUR MORAL POSTURING. I HATE IT

AND THIS MONSTER INSIDE OF ME WANTS TO MAKE YOU ALL PAY

YOU SHOULD HAVE JUST LET US GO



IDW

ISSUE #5

METZEN

DILLE

RAMONDELLI

THE TRANS



FORMERS

MONSTROSITY



Lino Rambelli

# THE TRANSFORMERS

Long ago, in the early days of the war on Cybertron...

Exiled on the planet Unkon, the former Decepticon leader Megatron waged war against the New Set by his native planet. And he had help from his old friend Blackout, who sought to avenge his brother Barricade's death at the hands of the Autobots. But Barricade's spirit still haunted him, driving him to commit atrocities during the conflict. Soon, however, he would be forced to confront his past.



## MONSTROSITY

Chapter 1 PREVIEW

Story by: CHRIS METZEN & FLINT DILLE

Art and Cover by: LIVIO RAMONDELLI

Letters by: TOM B. LONG

Editor: JOHN BARBER

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BLASTER HERE,  
BROADCASTIN  
FROM THE NEXIS.

AND MAN,  
I WISH I  
WASN'T

THIS IS  
A DAY OF  
TRAGEDY  
FOR ALL  
CYBERTRONIANS,  
AUTOBOT AND  
DECEPTICON  
ALIKE

DETAILS ARE  
SKETCHY BUT  
RELIABLE SOURCES  
INFORM ME  
THAT AUTOBOT  
FORCES LED  
BY OPTIMUS  
PRIME -

...RESPONDING  
TO A DECEPTICON  
ATTACK ON THE  
TORAXXIS MEGA-  
REFINERY -

ENGAGED A SMALL  
GROUP OF UNALIGNED  
MERCENARIES WHO WERE  
ALREADY RAIDING THE  
FACTORY'S ENERGON  
STORES.

THE UNIDENTIFIED  
MERCENARY LEADER  
THREATENED TO DETONATE  
THE FACTORY'S FUSION-CORE  
IF BOTH GROUPS DIDN'T  
IMMEDIATELY WITHDRAW

WHEN THE  
PRIME TALKED  
HIM DOWN FROM  
HIS SUICIDAL  
ACT -

THE NEW  
DECEPTICON  
LEADER,  
SCORPONOK  
TRIGGERED  
THE CORE'S  
MELTDOWN  
HIMSELF

THE EXPLOSION  
FROM THIS SENSELESS  
ACT OF TERROR NOT  
ONLY KILLED THOUSANDS  
IN THE SURROUNDING  
AREA - BUT OBLITERATED  
ONE OF CYBERTRON'S  
LAST VITAL SOURCES  
OF ENERGON.

WE RECEIVED CONFIRMATION THAT OPTIMUS PRIME AND HIS SENIOR OFFICERS SURVIVED THE ATTACK.

AND WE HAVE WORD THAT HE WILL BE GIVING A EULOGY FOR THOSE STANDING MISSING—AND THOSE PRESUMED DEAD.

## METROPLEX.

EVEN NOW WHILE THE DEATH TOLL GROWS, WE ARE GATHERED HERE TO REMEMBER THOSE WHO WERE LOST IN THIS DERANGED ACT OF VIOLENCE.

BOTH CIVILIANS AND OUR FELLOW OFFICERS

BUT LET US TAKE THIS MOMENT TO ENSURE THAT THEY HAVE NOT DIED IN VAIN.

—AND THAT THE UNITY THEY DIED TO PROTECT WILL BE RESTORED.

WE CANNOT LET THIS TRAGEDY SEPARATE OUR FAMILIES ANY FURTHER!

THIS IS AN OPPORTUNITY TO REAFFIRM OUR BONDS AND OUR SACRED PLEDGE TO LEAD THE PEOPLE OF CYBERTRON EVEN WHEN TIMES ARE AT THEIR DARKEST.

TIL ALL ARE ONE!

TIL ALL ARE ONE

TIL ALL ARE ONE

TIL ALL ARE ONE

PRIME'S QUARTERS.  
LATER.

IT'S ALL  
FALLING  
APART,  
ATLAS.

HOW DO  
I NOT  
ANTICIPATE  
SOMETHING  
LIKE THIS?

YOU MAY  
CARRY THE  
MATRIX WITHIN  
YOU—BUT EVEN  
A PRIME HAS  
HIS LIMITS.

I KNOW  
YOU DIDN'T  
WISH FOR  
THIS TO  
HAPPEN, BUT  
I DID

AND I  
FEAR GIVEN  
THE RAMPANT  
VIOLENCE THAT'S  
GRIPPED OUR  
WORLD, THAT THIS  
IS ONLY THE  
BEGINNING

I WILL  
PROTECT  
OUR PEOPLE



KOLKULAR.

THE DEAD  
ARE NOT TO  
BE MOURNED.  
THEY ARE TO BE  
SCAVENGED.

TAKE THE  
BEST OF  
THEIR PARTS.  
MELT THE  
REST

FORGET  
THEM. THEY ARE  
FAILURES.

THEIR  
STAIN MUST  
BE ELIMINATED  
FROM CYBERTRON  
AS YOU INSTALL  
THEIR PARTS. BE  
SURE NOT TO LET  
THE TAINT OF  
DEFEAT INFECT  
YOU.

SCORPONOK—  
HOW CAN YOU  
SAY THAT? THEY  
DIED FIGHTING  
FOR US!

IT'S ONLY  
CHANCE THAT  
SOME OF US  
LIVED AND  
SOME OF US  
DIED!

NOT  
CHANCE.  
FATE.

THE STRONG  
SURVIVE! THE  
WEAK ARE CRUSHED  
BENEATH THEM

TO THINK  
OTHERWISE  
IS TO THINK  
LIKE AN  
AUTOBOT!

NO—THAT'S  
NOT RIGHT!  
EVEN MEGATRON  
RESPECTED THOSE  
WHO DIED IN  
HIS SERVICE!

I RESPECT  
ONLY  
POWER!

THAT'S WHAT  
IT MEANS TO BE  
A DECEPTICON

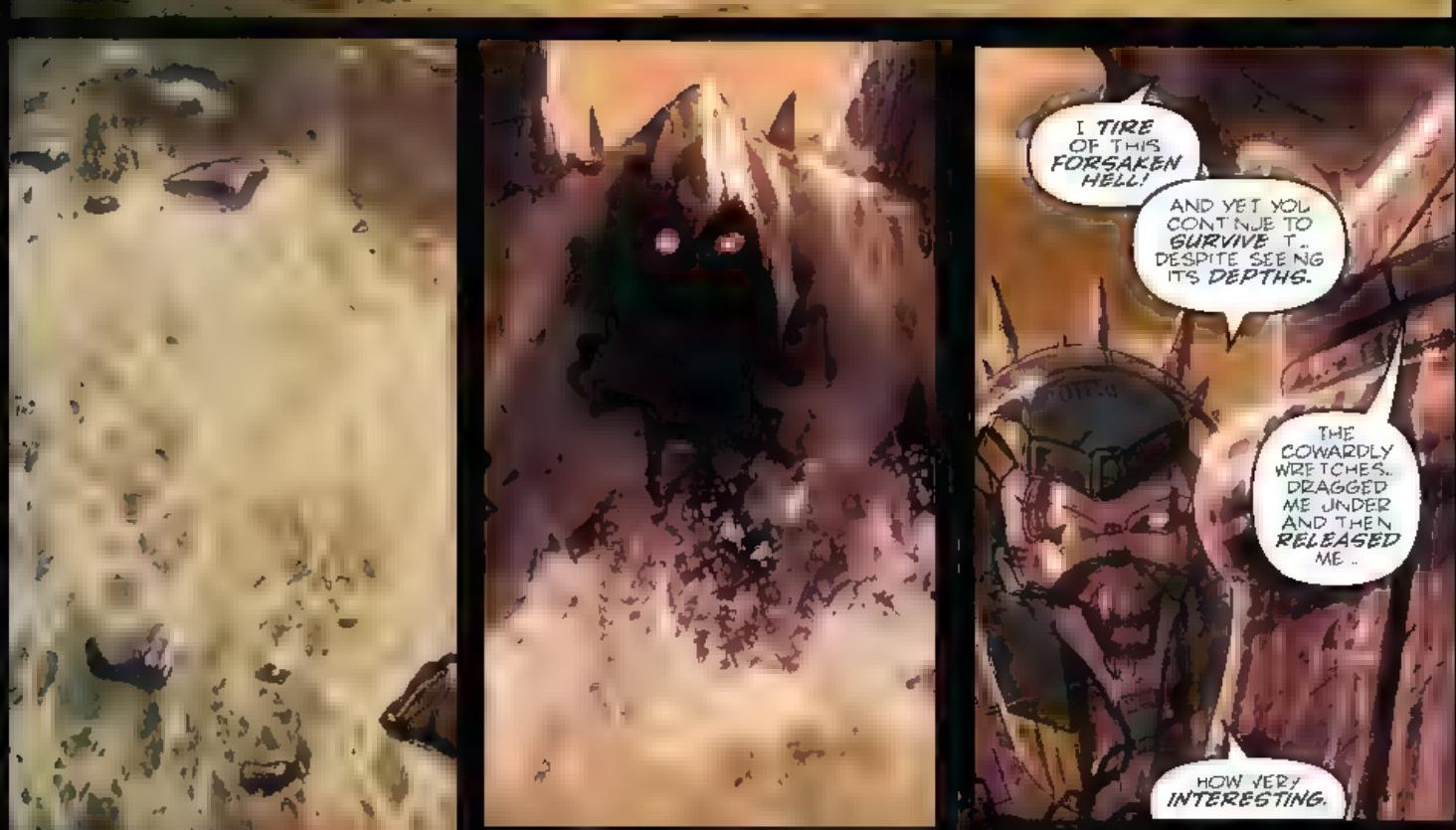
ANYONE  
ELSE CARE  
TO VENTURE  
THEIR  
OPINION?

LEAVE THIS  
WRETCH.

DO NOT  
SCAVENGE HIS  
PARTS—THEY  
ARE TAINTED  
BY WEAKNESS  
AND FEAR

AND MARK  
MY WORDS—THE  
NEXT BOT THAT SO  
MUCH AS MENTIONS  
MEGATRON'S NAME  
WILL SHARE THIS  
FATE.

JUNKION.  
THE ACID SEA



"THE JUNKIONS WERE ONCE A BEAUTIFUL YET NARCISSISTIC RACE WHO SQUANDERED ANY POTENTIAL THEY MIGHT HAVE HAD

"LAZY AND INDOLENT THEY WERE SHOCKED TO DISCOVER THEY HAD DEPLETED THE R WORLD OF ITS PRECIOUS RESOURCES

"THEY SURVIVED FOR A TIME SELLING THE WEALTH THEY HAD ACCUMULATED

"BUT WHEN THEY FINALLY EXHAUSTED THE LAST OF THE R ENERGON

"THE GREAT ENGINES THAT PERPETUATED THE R CRUMBLING UTOPIA FINALLY SELF-DESTRUCTED.

"THE GRAVIMETRIC PULL OF THIS BROKEN WORLD SUCKED THE DETRITUS FROM SPACE—RAINING IT DOWN TO SHATTER THE LAST VESTIGES OF THE R CIVILIZATION

"THE SURVIVORS WERE LEFT WITH NO ALTERNATIVE BUT TO FORAGE FOR THEIR EXISTENCE AMONGST THE TEEMING WRECKAGE OF THEIR VANITY"

IT IS THE CYCLE OF EMPIRE AFFECTION, DECADENCE, PREDATION, CANNIBALIZATION.

THIS FATE AWAITS YOUR WORLD DOES IT NOT?

I WILL RECLAIM MY WORLD EVENTUALLY, AND MY RULE MY LEGACY WILL LAST FOREVER

WHY? WHAT IS IT THAT DRIVES YOU?

DOMINANCE. IT IS THE ONLY TRUTH OF EXISTENCE.

VERY GOOD. YOU ARE LEARNING AFTER ALL.

NO NOT CYBERTRON.

THESE JUNKIONS WERE SHORT-SIGHTED FOOLS. I DO NOT LACK FOR VISION.

## CYBERTRON, THE TORAXXIS BLAST SITE.



# WITHIN THE IRRADIATED TORAXXIS CRATER

ARE OUR RAD-SHIELDS HOLDING PERCEPTOR?

RADIATION LEVELS ARE SPIKING JETFRE BUT I THINK WE'RE SAFE FOR THE TIME BEING

I'VE NEVER SEEN SUCH DESTRUCTION BEFORE

KEEP YOUR EYES OUT FOR SURVIVORS.

I'M NOT DETECTING ANY ON THE SURFACE BUT THERE MAY BE LIFE SIGNS UNDERGROUND

IMPROBABLE RATCHET

THE POSSIBILITY OF SYSTEMS SURVIVING IN THE CRUST'S INTENSELY PRESSURIZED SUB-STRATA IS THREE HUNDRED THIRTY THOUSAND TO ONE

WE CAN ALL DO THE MATH, PERCEPTOR

BUT IF THERE'S EVEN A CHANCE ANYONE SURVIVED DOWN WE GO

DEEPER THAN WE'VE EVER BEEN INTO THE PLANET'S SUB-SURFACE WE MIGHT JUST LEARN A THING OR TWO.

DO YOU GUYS SEE THAT? I DON'T THINK WE'RE ALONE DOWN HERE

IT COULD BE SURVIVORS! PAN OUT!

I DON'T KNOW

...I GOT A BAD FEELING ABOUT THIS.

TO BE CONTINUED

IDW  
ISSUE #6

THE TRANSFORMERS



METZEN  
DILLE  
RAMONDELLI

TRANSFORMERS

MONSTROSITY



# THE TRANSFORMERS

Long ago, in the early days of the war on Cybertron...

After a thousand-year-long war, the Decepticons' refinery explosion triggered by the Decepticon leader Scorponok, the planet Cybertron was nearly destroyed. With no more and a shortage of energy, Desperatus had to find more alien lifeforms and substances. A robot leader named Primus Prime found Desperatus and his crew plotting to expand their empire. He and his Autobots had to expose them before they could take over the Toybox oil refinery.

## MONSTROSITY

BY JEFF MCKEE

It's been a long time since the last major crossover comic book, but now it's back! IDW Publishing has announced that it will be publishing *The Transformers: Monstrosity*, a new comic book that will bring together the Autobots and the Decepticons. The comic will be written by Jeff McKee and will feature art by various artists. The comic is set to be released in May 2013.

Special thanks to Hasbro's Azusa Archer, Jerry Jacob, Michael Verret, Ed Lane, Joe Ruffino, Joe Huxley, Andy Schmidt, Heather Hopkins, and Michael Kelly for their invaluable assistance.



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CYBERTRON, DEEP BENEATH  
THE TORAXXIS CRATER.

EVERYONE  
WATCH YOUR  
STEP

WITH ALL  
THIS SEISMIC  
ACTIVITY THE  
FLOORING  
COULD BE  
UNSTABLE.

THAT'S NOT  
THE WORST  
OF IT. MAGNETIC  
INTERFERENCE  
IS PLAYING HAVOC  
WITH OUR RELAY  
SIGNALS.

WE'RE  
PRACTICALLY  
BLIND DOWN  
HERE. NO WAY  
TO CONTACT  
HQ.

JUST  
KEEP YOUR  
OPTICS  
OPEN FOR  
ANY

# ROUUUMMMBLES

HEY—  
LOOK AT  
THIS!

IT'S ANCIENT  
SCRIPT. PERHAPS  
FROM KNIGHTS OF  
CYBERTRON ERA?

ARGON  
DATING  
CAN'T QUITE  
PLACE IT

LOOKS LIKE  
A WARNING.  
WHOEVER THEY  
ARE, THEY WANTED  
TO KEEP US FROM  
GETTING IN

OR THEY WERE  
TRYING TO KEEP  
SOMETHING FROM  
GETTING OUT.

# KRUUUMMBLE

EARTH-  
QUAKE!

GRAB ON TO  
SOMETHING!

# KRUNCK

EVERYONE,  
STILL ALIVE?  
SOUND OFF!

WE'RE  
OKAY  
BUT AM I  
SEEING  
THIS  
RIGHTS?

IN ITS RAWEST STATE  
AT MY ESTIMATE  
ENOUGH LIQUID ENERGON  
TO POWER MACON FOR  
A THOUSAND CYCLES.

IS IT SOME  
KIND OF  
RUN-OFF  
FROM THE  
REFINERY?

BASED ON  
PRELIMINARY  
GEOLOGICAL  
EVIDENCE, I'D SAY  
THIS RESERVOIR  
PREDATES THE  
REFINERY'S  
CONSTRUCTION BY  
MANY MILLIONS  
OF CYCLES.

THEN THIS  
ENERGON IS  
NATURALLY  
OCCURRING.

IS THAT...  
IS THAT  
ENERGON?

METROPLEX.  
DATA-ARCHIVE.

REPORTING AS ORDERED PRIME.

SIR, I'M JUST A GRUNT

I'M NOT SURE HOW I CAN HELP YOU, HERE

I APPRECIATE YOU COMING KUP

I WANTED TO ASK WHAT YOU KNEW ABOUT THE DYNOBOTS

WELL, THAT TAKES ME BACK BUT JUST STORES, REALLY RUMORS

THEY WERE PART OF THE PRIMAL VANGUARD UNDER NOMINUS.

SIX MAN TEAM - HEAVY WEAPONS, DEMOLITIONS, SABOTAGE. THEY WERE GOOD. REAL GOOD.

THEY HAD A PERFECT SERVICE RECORD BEFORE THEY VANISHED

VANISHED?

WORD ON THE STREET WAS THEY WENT AWOL AFTER COMPLETING THEIR LAST MISSION - BUT RECORDS OF THE OP WERE CLASSIFIED AND BURIED.

BUT THEY'VE BEEN OFF THE GRID EVER SINCE LIKE THEY NEVER EXISTED

HOST SOLDIERS.

SOMETHING LIKE THAT

WELL, THEY'VE REAPPEARED WITH A BANG

ACON SECURITY FOOTAGE SHOWS THAT THEY AIDED US DURING OUR MARCH AGAINST MEGATRON\*

AND THEN, JUST A FEW DAYS AGO, WE CAUGHT THEM RAIDING ENERGON LIKE COMMON THIEVES, AT TORAXXIS

T JUST DOESN'T ADD UP.

\*SEE TRANSFORMERS: AUTOCRACY!

EITHER WAY YOU'VE GOT TO BRING THEM IN.

WHEN SOLDIERS LIKE THAT GO BAD, THEY GO REAL BAD

IT WON'T BE EASY. THEY KNOW HOW TO HIDE. HOW TO AMBUSH. HOW TO HIT WHERE IT HURTS

THERE'S MORE. THE LEADER, GRIMLOCK MANIFESTED AN ALT-MODE I'VE NEVER SEEN BEFORE

IT WAS SAVAGE, BESTIAL

HE COULD BARELY CONTROL HIMSELF

WITH RESPECT, PRIME IF YOU HAD ACCESS TO THE FILES, WHY ASK ME ABOUT THEM?

PERSPECTIVE KUP THEY WERE GOOD SOLDIERS ONCE

I WANTED A SOLDIER'S HONEST PERSPECTIVE BEFORE CONDEMNING THEM

PERHAPS IT'S TIME WE OPENED THE SEALED FILES?

**TORAXXIS.  
ENERGON CAVERNS.**

IT'S THE  
PUREST FORM  
OF ENERGON  
I'VE EVER SEEN,  
PERCEPTOR.

THE LIQUID  
STATE IS HYPER-  
CONDUCTIVE AND  
APPARENTLY SELF-  
REPLENISHING

THIS IS AN  
UNPRECEDENTED  
DISCOVERY

YES, BUT  
I'M DETECTING  
CERTAIN PARTICLE  
ANOMALIES MY  
EQUIPMENT CAN'T  
CLASSIFY

BUT RESERVOIRS  
LIKE THIS COULD  
SOLVE OUR  
ENERGY PROBLEMS  
FOREVER!

HOW DID NO  
ONE KNOW  
SOMETHING  
LIKE THIS WAS  
DOWN HERE?

MAYBE  
SOMEONE  
D-  
ANOTHER  
TREMOR!  
WATCH OUT!

**RUUUMMMBLE**

RATCHET?  
YOU  
OKAY?

**RAAAHHH!!**

RATCHET...

WHAT  
ARE  
YOU-

**RAAAARGH!!**

NNNGH!

**RAAAARGH!!**

GET A HOLD  
OF YOURSELF,  
RATCHET!

CALM  
DOWN!

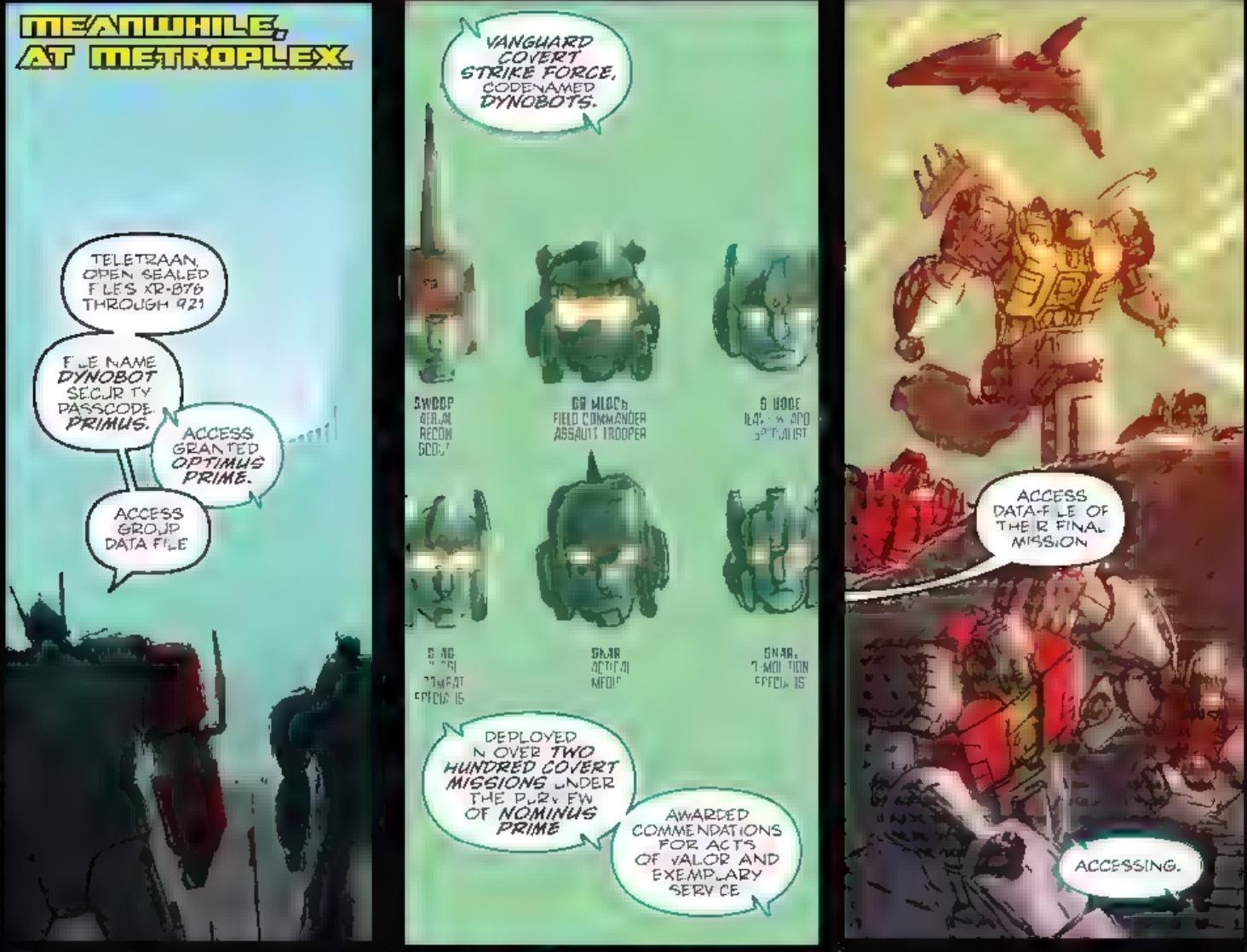
I...  
PERCEPTOR  
I'M SORRY'

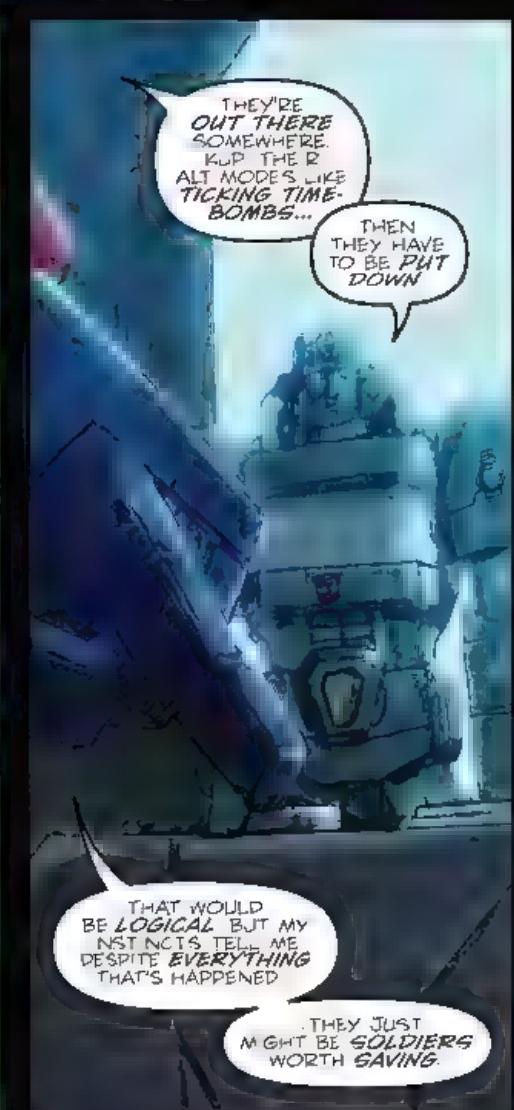
I  
DON'T  
KNOW WHAT  
CAME OVER  
ME

I WAS PRIMA  
OVERWHELMING  
MY INHIBITORS



## MEANWHILE, AT METROPLEX.





MEANWHILE,  
WITHIN THE  
ENERGON CAVERNS.

IMPOSSIBLE  
TO GET A  
POSITIONAL  
FIX DOWN  
HERE WITH ALL  
THE MAGNETIC  
INTERFERENCE  
THOSE THINGS  
COULD BE  
ANYWHERE

WHY DON'T  
WE EVER  
LISTEN TO  
WARNING?

BECUSE  
WE'RE  
SCIENTISTS,  
OF COURSE!

PRIMUS.

REFUGEE

MISSILES  
ARE USELESS  
THIS CLOSE!

FALL BACK  
TO THE  
PASSAGE!

THERE'S  
MORE  
BEHIND US!

SOMEBODY  
THINK OF  
SOMETHING,  
QUICK!

INCREASED  
SEISMIC ACTIVITY  
SUGGESTS THE  
STRUCTURAL INTEGRITY  
OF THE SURROUNDING  
SUB-STRATA MAY BE  
SUSCEPTIBLE TO DIRECT-

SPIT  
IT OUT!

WE COULD  
BUST A HOLE  
INTO THE NEXT  
CAVERN AND  
ESCAPE!

NOW  
THAT'S A  
PLAN!





THEY'RE NOT FOLLOWING US.

THEY'RE AFRAID

THERE'S SOMETHING IN HERE THEY'RE RECOILING FROM



PERHAPS THEY FEAR WHOEVER LIVES WITHIN THIS COMPLEX?

MAYBE.

WAIT HERE



I WANT TO GET A BETTER LOOK AT THIS



I DON'T KNOW, GUYS  
I'M NOT READING ANY LIFE-FORMS WITHIN THAT THING.

IT JUST RADIATES ONE BIG VITAL-PULSE

I DON'T THINK THIS IS A CONVENTIONAL COMPLEX

STRUCTURAL ANGLES ARE ALL WRONG. ENERGY FLUCTUATIONS ARE OFF THE SCALE

OH. WAIT. WAIT.



WHAT JETT RE? WHAT DO YOU SEE?

GUYS, I THINK WE JUST STUMBLED INTO A WHOLE HEAP OF TROUBLE

TO BE CONTINUED

IDW

ISSUE #7

THE

TRANS



METZEN  
DILLE  
RAMONDELLI

TRANSFORMERS

MONSTROSITY



# THE TRANSFORMERS



Long ago, in the early days of the war on Cybertron...

Jetfire and his team of scientists discover a vast underground lake of energon deep beneath Cybertron, but its unstable properties make it an unsettling discovery—as do the monsters that guard it: monsters that had long ago defeated the Dynobots. Meanwhile, exiled on the planet Junkion, the former Decepticon leader Megatron carries a strange alien across a dangerous landscape.

## MONSTROSITY

EXTRACT FROM THE PLOT

Story by: CHRIS METZEN & FLINT DILLE

Art and Cover by: LIVIO RAMONDELLI

Letters by: SHAWN LEE

Editorial Assistant: MARIEL ROMERO

Editor: JOHN BARBER

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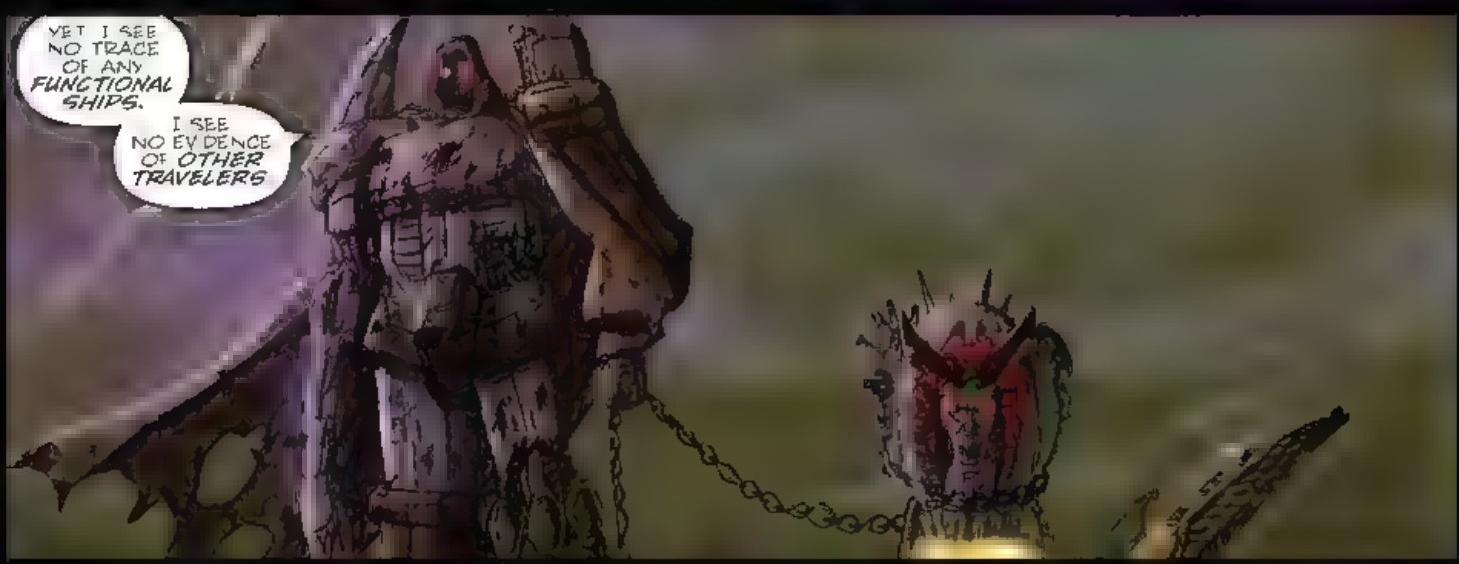
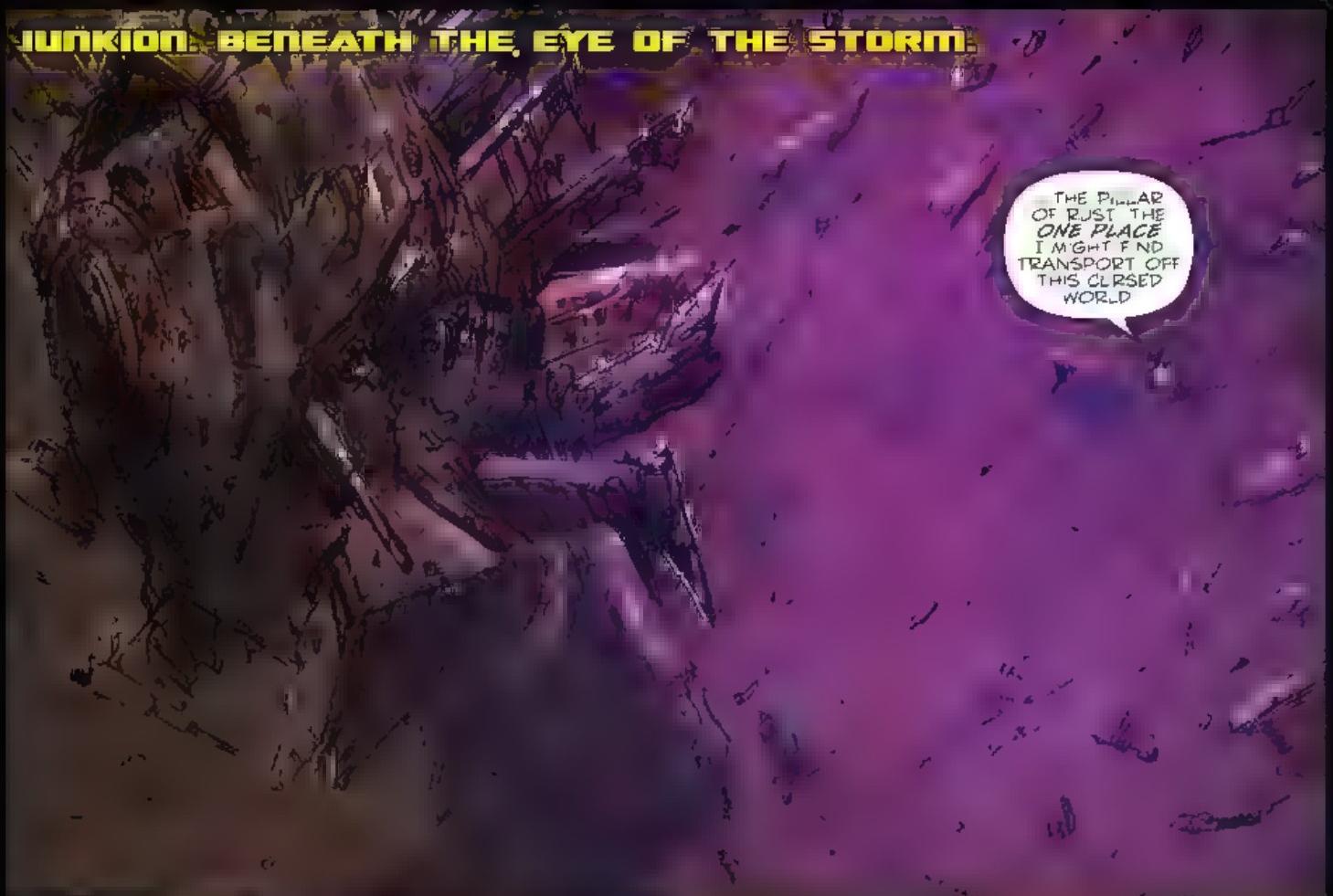
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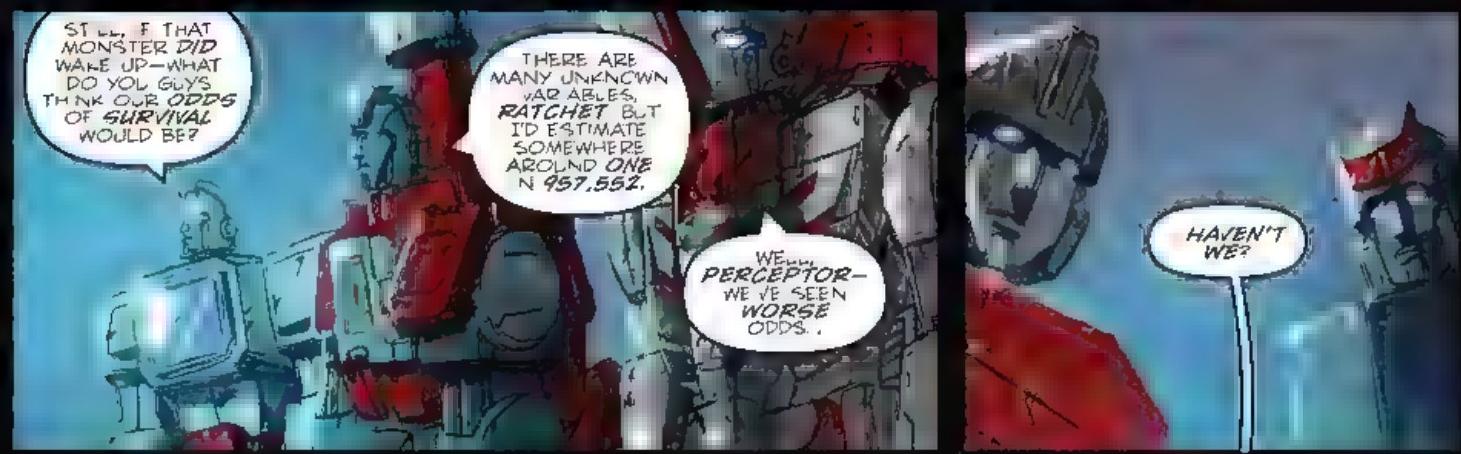




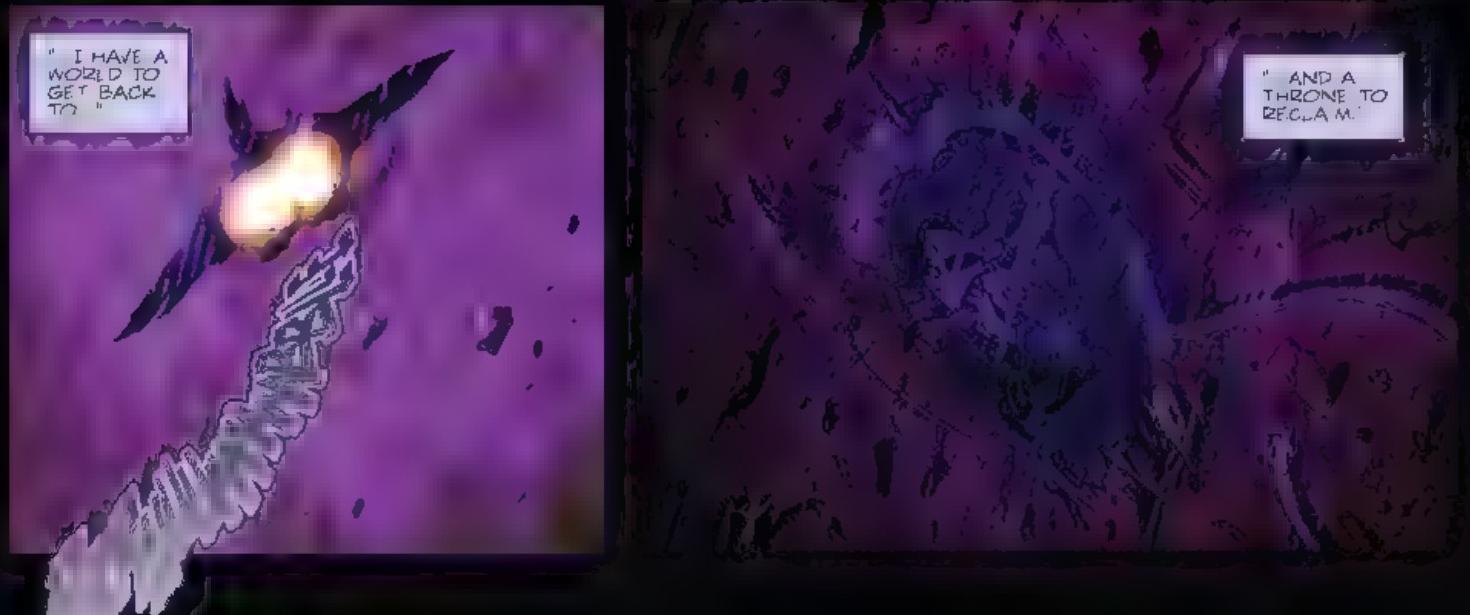




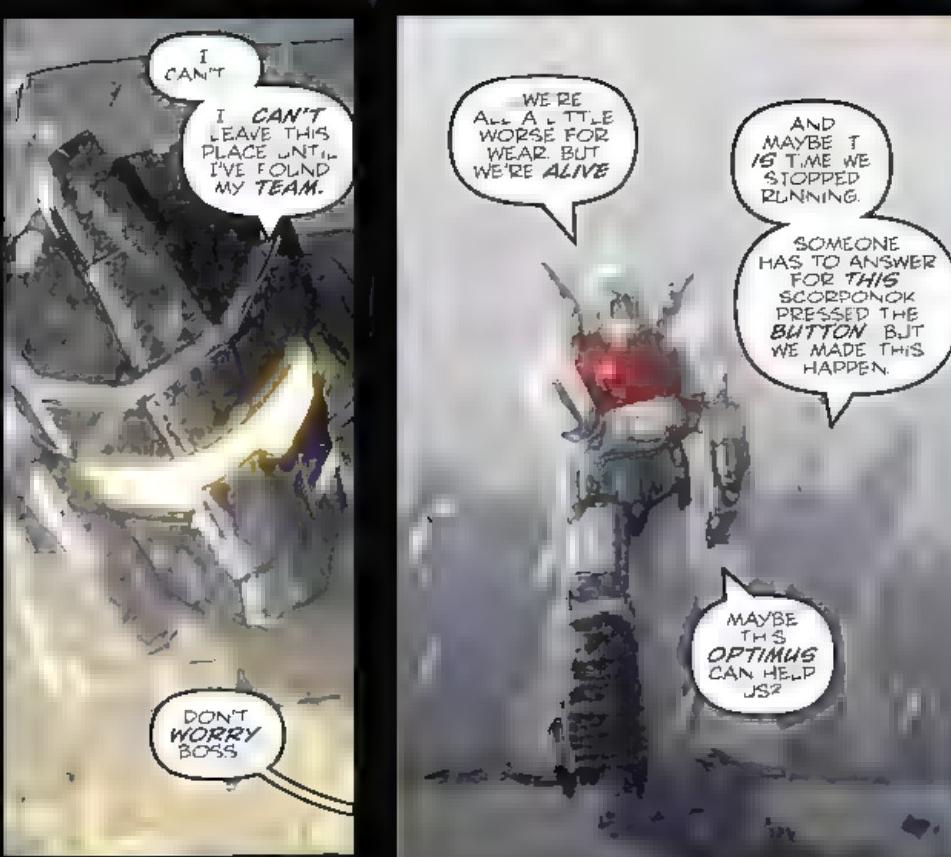
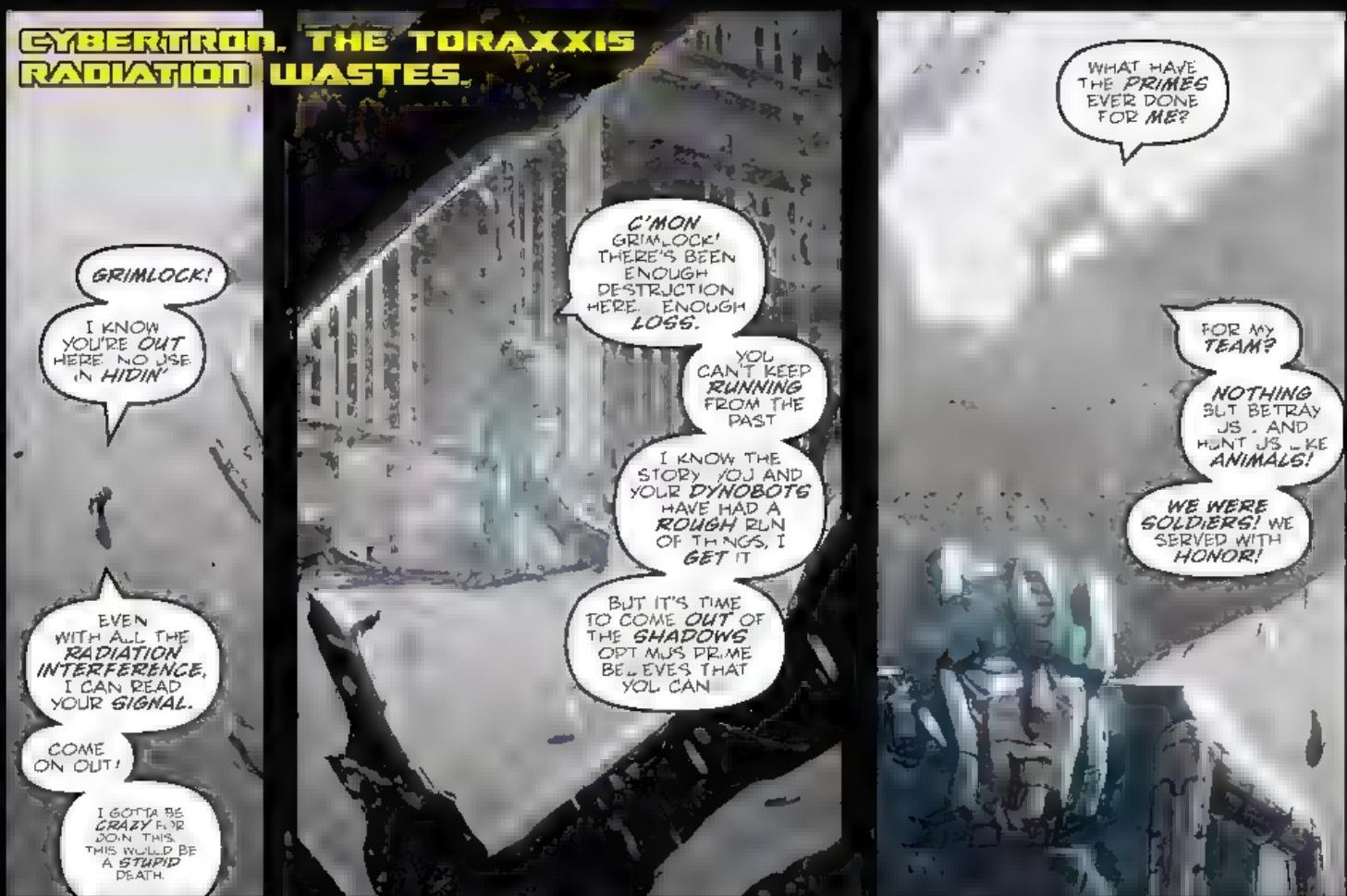
# METROPLEX. AUTOBOT HEADQUARTERS, CYBERTRON.



JUNKION.



# CYBERTRON, THE TORAXXIS RADIATION WASTES.



**IDW**  
ISSUE #8

METZEN  
DILLE  
RAMONBELLi

THE

**TRANS** 

**FORMERS**

**MONSTROOSITY**



# THE TRANSFORMERS



Long ago, in the early days of the war on Cybertron...

A battle between Decepticon forces and the renegade Dynobots lays waste to an energon refinery, sending the population of Cybertron into a panic. Optimus Prime tries to hold his people together—and sends Kup to locate the Dynobots. But Senator Da! Atlas has had enough of the Autobots' war—his urging citizens begin to leave the planet.

BEGIN TO LEAVE THE PLANET

## MONSTROSITY

Chapter 8: MASSACRE

Story by: CHRIS METZEN & FLINT DILLE

Art and Cover by: LIVIO RAMONDELLI

Letters by: TOM B. LONG

Editorial Assistant: MARIEL ROMERO

Editor: JOHN BARBER

Special thanks to Hasbro's Aaron Archer, Jerry Jickin, Michael Verret, Ed Lane, Joe Burkin, Joe Murday, Andy Schmidt, Heather Neupius, and Michael Kelly for their invaluable assistance.

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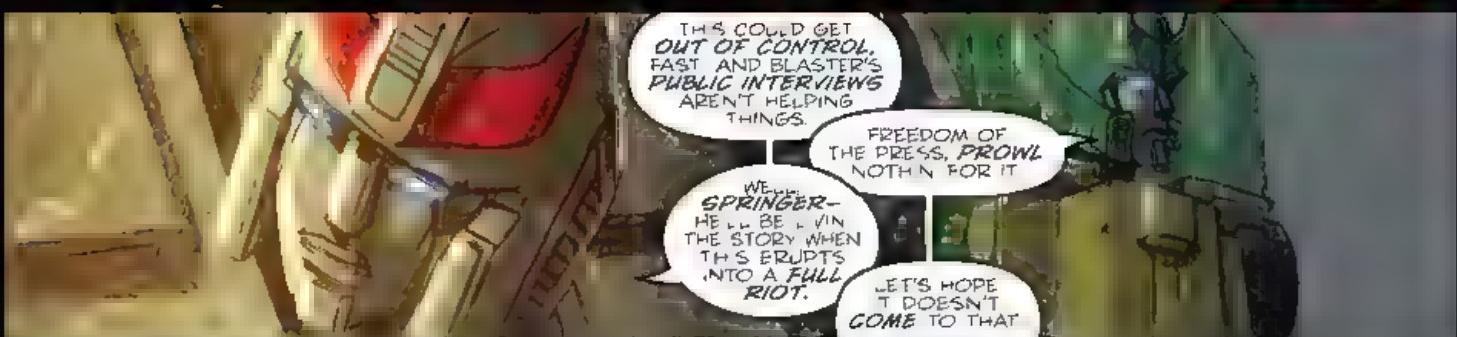
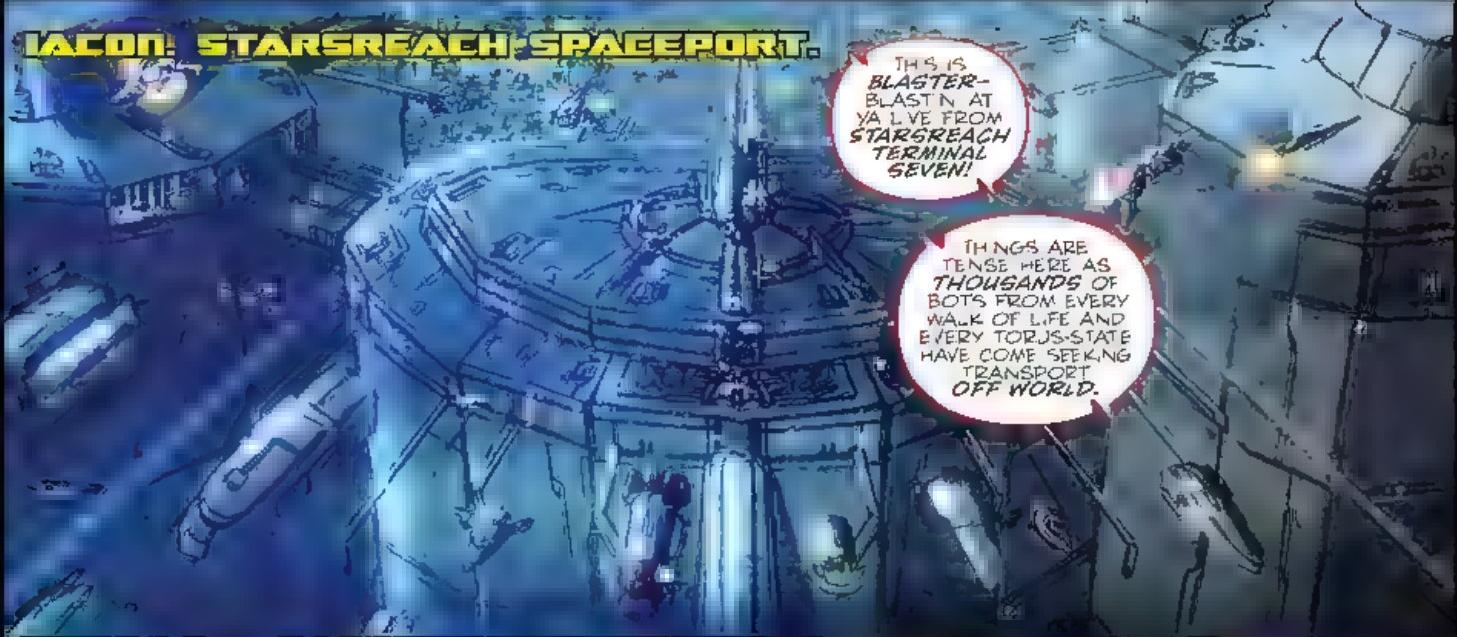
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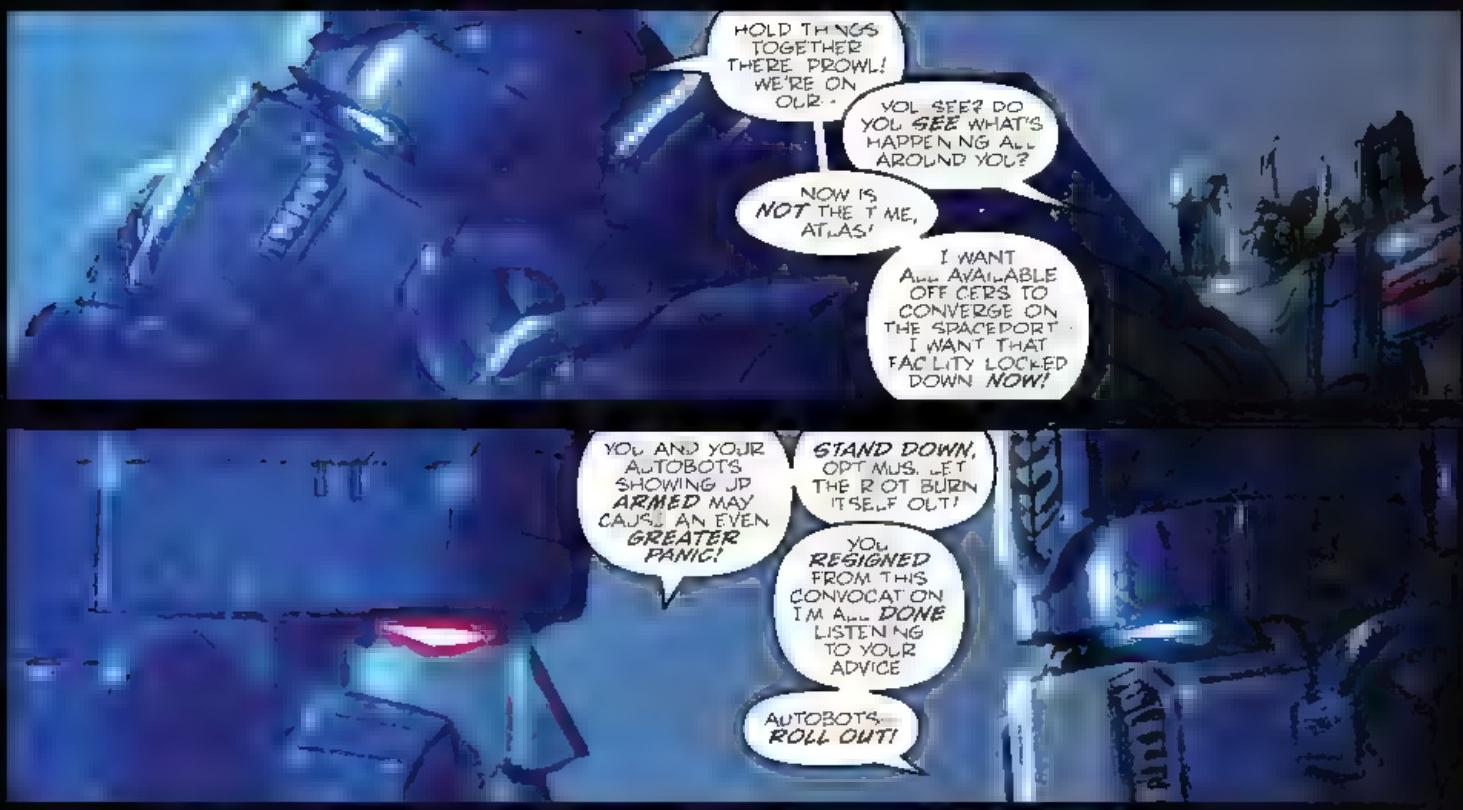
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# ACON: STARSREACH SPACEPORT.



## KOLKULAR

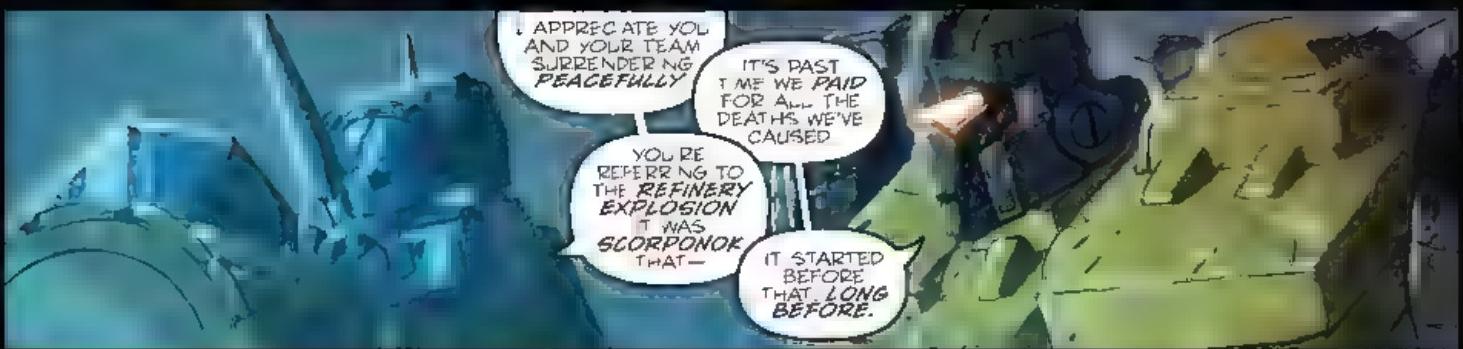


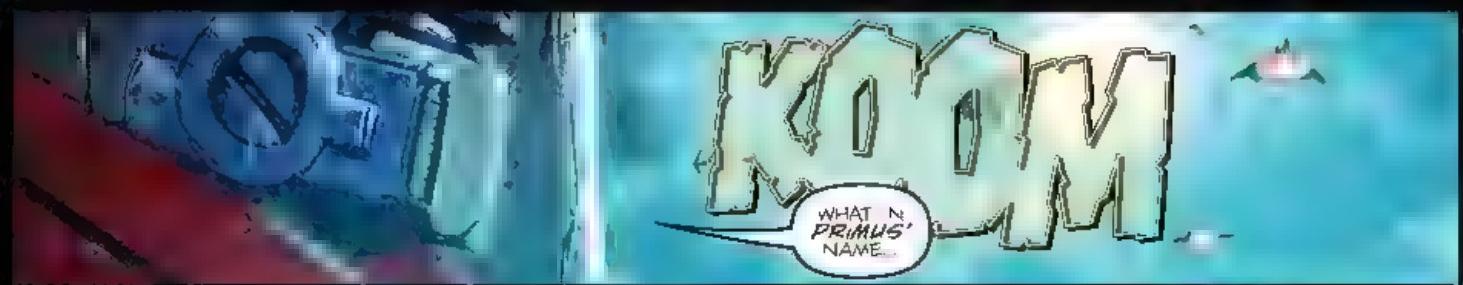


## STARSHREACH SPACEPORT.









NEARBY.



IDW  
ISSUE #9

THE

TRANS



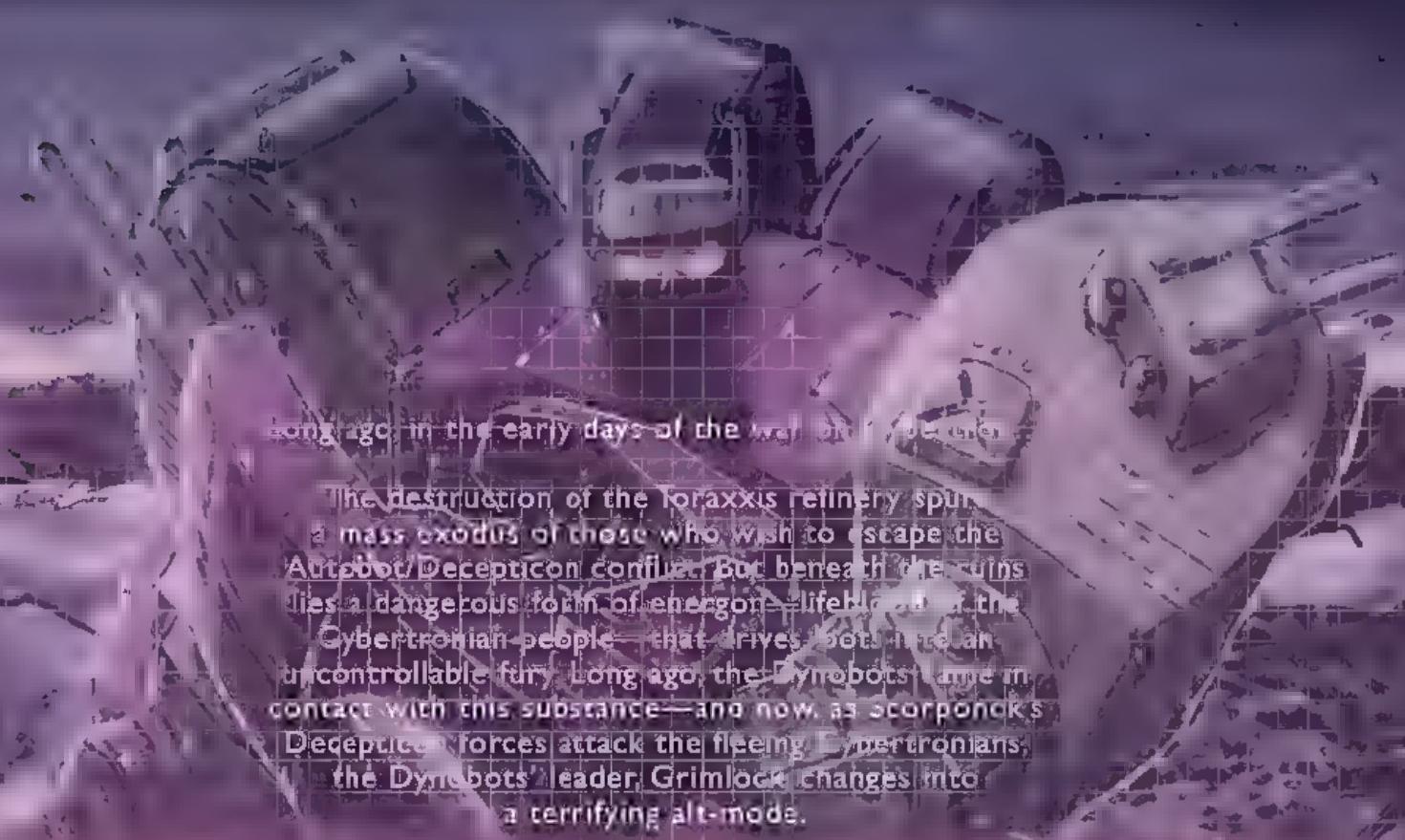
FORMERS

MONSTROUSITY



METZEN  
DILLE  
RAMONDELLI

# THE TRANSFORMERS



Long ago, in the early days of the Cybertronian War,

The destruction of the Taraxxis refinery spurred a mass exodus of those who wished to escape the Autobot/Decepticon conflict. But beneath the ruins lies a dangerous form of energon—lifeblood of the Cybertronian people—that drives bots to an uncontrollable fury. Long ago, the Dynobots came in contact with this substance—and now, as Scorpions' Decepticon forces attack the fleeing Cybertronians, the Dynobots' leader, Grimlock, changes into

a terrifying alt-mode.

## MONSTROSITY

Chapter 3: UNLERSHED

Story by: CHRIS METZEN & FLINT DILLE

Art and Cover by: LIVIO RAMONDELLI

Letters by: TOM B. LONG

Editor: JOHN BARBER

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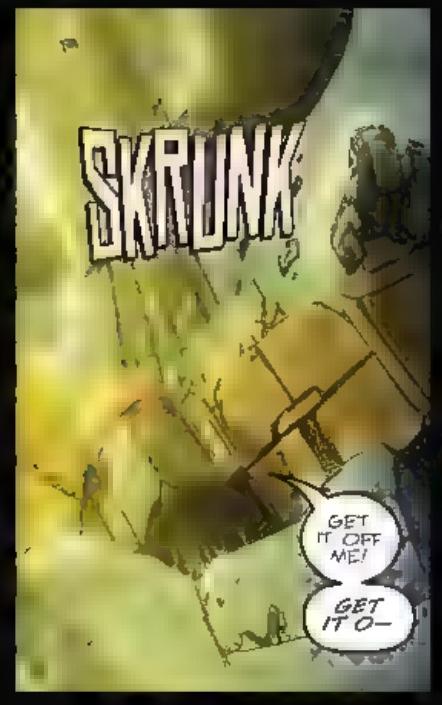
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CYBERTRON. STARSREACH SPACEPORT.







## ELSEWHERE.



## STARSTREACH



## THE TORAXXIS CRATER



# RUMMBLE RUMMBLE



"NO... THE  
FUTURE WE  
FORGE—

"... WILL BE  
BORN OF FIRE  
AND TERROR

"IT WILL RISE  
FROM THE  
TRAMPLED  
ASHES OF THE  
OLD WORLD—

"—AND NONE  
SHALL STAND  
AGAINST IT"

"AND IN THE FACE  
OF UTTER RUIN...



"...THE STRONG, AT  
LAST SHALL RISE."

TO BE CONTINUED!

IDW  
ISSUE #10

THE

TRANS



METZEN  
DILLE  
RAMONDELLI

TRANSFORMERS

MONSTROSITY



# THE TRANSFORMERS



Long ago, in the early days of the war on Cybertron...

Optimus Prime tries to hold together a population that increasingly turns against the burgeoning war his Autobots face. Meanwhile, Scorponok—having exiled Megatron to a distant planet—now leads the Decepticons... and he unleashes an ancient terror from the depths of the ravaged world of Cybertron.

## MONSTROSITY

Chapter 10: THE ILLUSION OF CONTROL

Story by: CHRIS METZEN & FLINT DILLE

Art and Cover by: LIVIO RAMONDELLI

Letters by: TOM B. LONG

Editor: JOHN BARBER

Special thanks to Hasbro's Aaron Archer, Jerry Jickin, Michael Verner, Ed Lane, Joe Burfano, Joe Murday, Andy Schmidt, Heather Neupius, and Michael Kelly for their invaluable assistance.

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## METROPLEX, OPTIMUS, QUARTERS.

YOU FEAR THAT THE CENTER CANNOT HOLD.

DAI ATLAS, GRIMLOCK

COUNTLESS OTHERS HAVE LEFT THIS WORLD BEHIND.

AND YOU FEEL AS IF YOU'VE FAILED THEM. YOU'RE ANGRY AT YOURSELF.

YES, IT'S ALL BREAKING DOWN. I LED THEM ALL TO THIS, TRION...

DID YOU?

WE ALL MAKE OUR OWN CHOICES. HAVE FAITH, OPTIMUS.

A LEADER'S JOB ISN'T ALWAYS TO MAKE DETERMINATIONS FOR HIS FOLLOWERS—BUT TO TEACH THEM TO MAKE THEIR OWN.

SOMETIMES, THESE LESSONS TAKE A WHILE TO SINK IN.

PERHAPS.

# SNWAK

OR PERHAPS I'M ANGRY BECAUSE THEY'VE ALL BROKEN FREE, WHILE I'M CHAINED HERE.

UNABLE TO PERFORM THIS IMPOSSIBLE DUTY.

YOUR FRUSTRATION IS UNDERSTANDABLE. BUT I KNOW YOU DON'T REALLY...

PRIME WE NEED YOU IN CENTRAL CONTROL!

NOT NOW BUMBLEBEE!

IT'S BAD SIR.  
WHAT'S IT?  
WHAT'S HAPPENED?

IT MIGHT BE THE END OF THE WORLD.

## MOMENTS LATER, AT THE COMMAND CENTER.

SCORPONOK AND THE DECEPTICONS SHOWED UP OUT OF NOWHERE AND CARPET-BOMBED THE AREA WITH SEISMIC CHARGES.

THERE WAS NOTHING WE COULD DO BUT RETREAT.

YOU DID THE RIGHT THING JETFIRE.

IF THERE'S ANY HOPE OF STOPPING THIS CREATURE IT'LL TAKE ALL OF US WORKING TOGETHER.

SILVERBOLT—

WHAT'S THE SITUATION WHERE YOU ARE?

THE CREATURE'S HEADING TOWARD HARMONEX, SIR!

CIVIL AUTHORITIES ARE TRYING TO EVACUATE THE NEIGHBORING TORUS-CITIES—

BUT THIS THING IS REALLY MOVING!

HARMONEX IS LOST ALREADY, BUT MAYBE WE CAN SLOW THE BEAST DOWN.

IRONHIDE, ASSEMBLE A FULL STRIKE TEAM.

WE NEED EVERYONE.

YOU GOT IT, BOSS.

MAGNUS, WE NEED AS MANY INDUSTRIAL GRADE PHASE CHARGES, GRAV-INHIBITORS, AND FUSION BORERS AS WE CAN SCROUNGE.

RIGHT AWAY, PRIME.



EVEN WITH ALL THAT HEAVY ORDINANCE WE MAY NOT EVEN GET THAT THING'S ATTENTION.

WHAT HAPPENS IF WE DON'T? IF WE CAN'T STOP IT?

I DON'T HAVE A PLAN YET, BUMBLEBEE.

BUT I'M WORKING ON IT.

## LATER, WITHIN THE HEART OF METROPLEX.



METROPLEX?

I CAME HERE TO...

I MUST ASK FOR YOUR AID ONCE AGAIN.

I AM HERE, OLD FRIEND AND I HAVE BEEN WATCHING...

THEN YOU KNOW OF THE CREATURE THAT'S BEEN UNLEASHED?

T IS A TERROR FROM A FORGOTTEN AGE.

THE SPAWN OF MORTILLUS, A VAST, MINDLESS ENGINE OF DESTRUCTION. THE ANCIENTS KNEW IT AS TRYPTICON.

MANY AGES AGO, I FOUGHT TO SUBDUED THE BEAST. I WAS THERE WHEN IT WAS SEALED AWAY BENEATH THE WORLD.

I WOULD, OLD FRIEND, BUT MY ENERGON RESERVES HAVE RUN PERILOUSLY LOW.

I FEAR I DON'T HAVE ENOUGH ENERGY TO ASSUME MY TRUE FORM.

I CANNOT AD YOU.

THEN IT'S AS I FEARED...

WE MUST FACE TRYPTICON ALONE.

## KOLKULAR, SCORPONOK'S SANCTUM.

YES. YES!  
DESTROY

GRIND IT  
ALL BENEATH  
YOUR RAGE!

LET THE WEAK  
TREMBLE AND  
SCURRY LIKE THE  
TECHNO-ROACHES  
THEY ARE.

GREAT  
SCORPONOK.  
I KNOW YOU'RE  
ENJOYING  
THE CARNAGE  
YOU'VE SET IN  
MOTION.

BUT YOUR  
WARRIOR  
REQUEST YOUR  
PRESENCE  
IN THE MAIN  
HALL.

I TOLD YOU  
I WAS NOT TO  
BE DISTURBED.  
STARScream.

MY APOLOGIES,  
BUT IN LIGHT OF  
RECENT EVENTS  
WE WISHED TO HONOR  
OUR TRUE LEADER..

THIS HAD BETTER  
BE GOOD,  
STARScream

I DON'T  
HAVE TIME FOR  
FOOLISH—

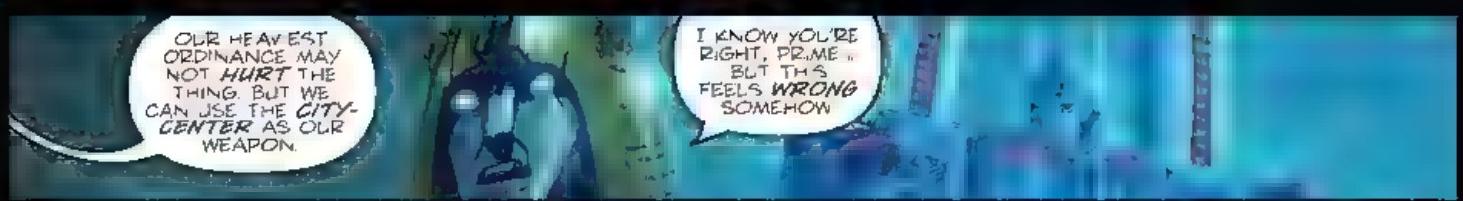
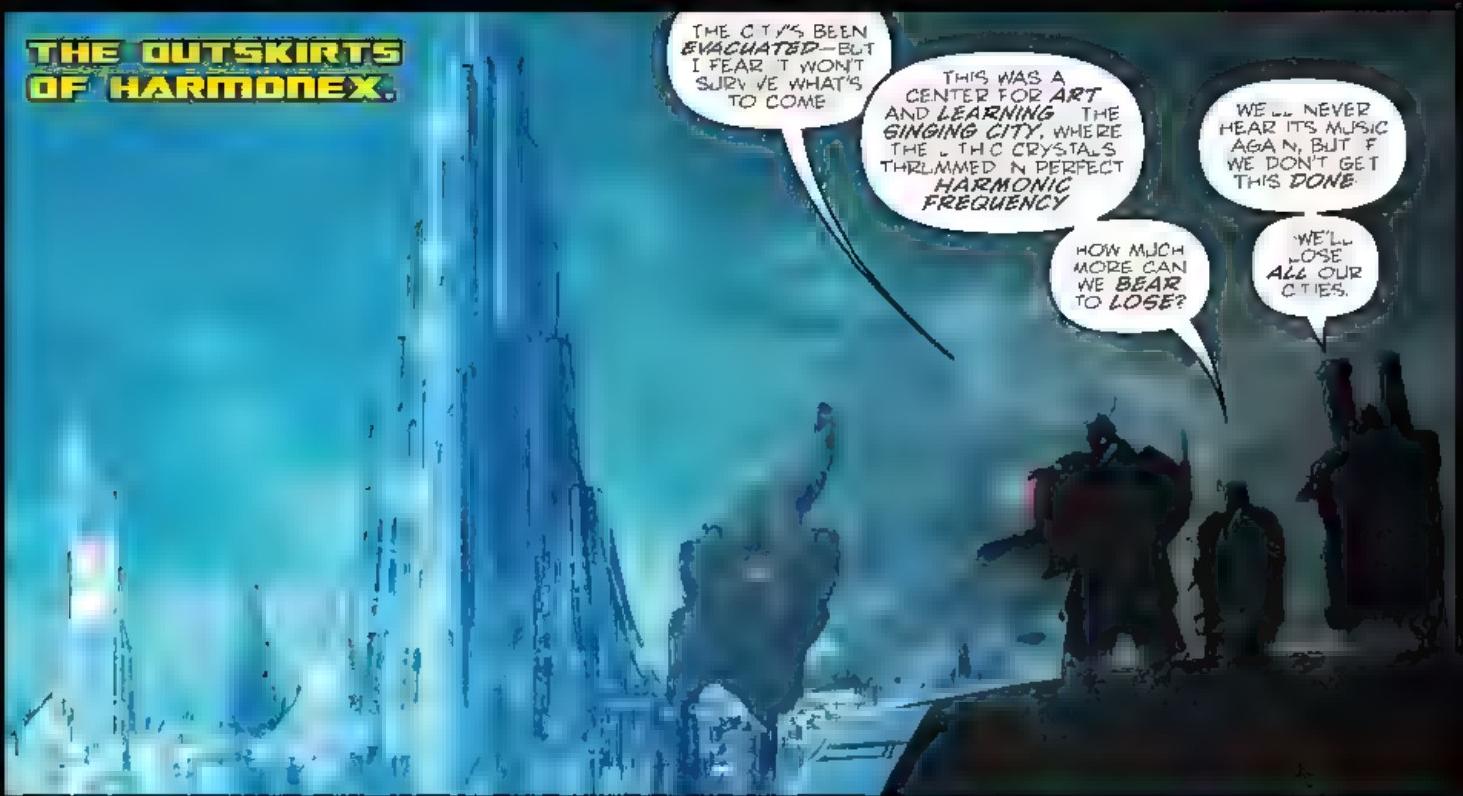
-WHA-?

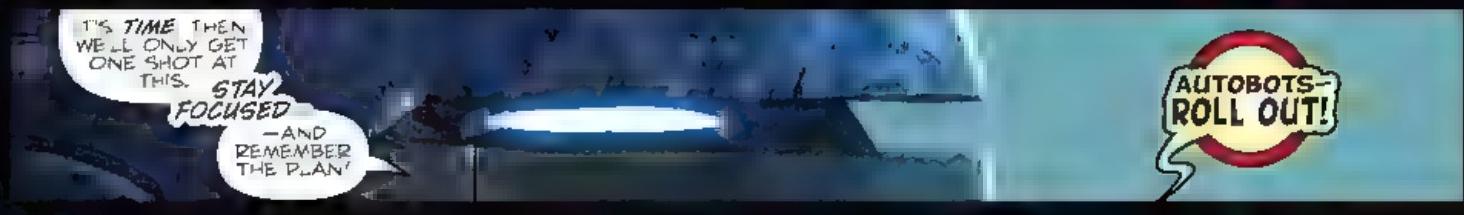
IT'S GOOD OF YOU TO  
WELCOME ME HOME  
SCORPONOK.

...IN  
PERSON

MEGATRON?  
IS THAT  
YOU?

HERE'S  
A HINT.







KOLKULAR.

WHERE DO  
YOU THINK  
YOU CAN  
CRAWL TO?

THERE'S NO  
ESCAPE FROM  
THIS RECKONING  
SCORPONOK

THERE WILL  
BE NO TRIAL...  
NO INGLORIOUS  
EXILE FOR YOU

GRAAAN!!  
THIS ISN'T  
POSSIBLE  
YOU WERE  
BEATEN  
BROKEN!

KRAANG

NOT WHERE  
IT COUNTED

M-MERCY...  
MERCY

HEH

RAAARRGGH!

RECKON

HUN-GAR,  
I PROMISED  
YOU AND YOUR  
TERRORCONS  
A SHARE OF THE  
SPOILS WHEN I  
RETOOK WHAT  
WAS RIGHTFULLY  
MINE

WELL...  
NOW YOU  
MAY FEED

BUT  
LEAVE ENOUGH  
OF HIM INTACT  
SO THAT HIS  
PAIN CENTERS  
CONTINUE TO  
FUNCTION.

WITH PLEASURE  
LORD MEGATRON

NO  
PLEASE

RAAURGH!

Nooooo!

RAUURGH!

WELL THEN, WHERE  
WERE WE?

WE ARE  
SO PLEASED  
TO HAVE YOU  
BACK, MIGHTY  
MEGATRON—

DO NOT  
SPEAK UNLESS  
SPOKEN TO  
STARScream

WE'LL DISCUSS  
YOUR PART IN THIS  
COUP LATER

AAAARRRRRGH!

SHOCKWAVE, MAKE  
PREPARATIONS  
TO REPAIR ME,  
IMMEDIATELY

I'VE WORN THE  
WRECKAGE OF  
JUNKION LONG  
ENOUGH...

AS YOU WILL,  
LORD  
MEGATRON.

NOW, SOMEBODY  
TELL ME WHAT'S  
BEEN DONE TO  
MY WORLD

TO BE CONTINUED!

IDW  
ISSUE #11

METZEN  
DILLE  
RAMONDELLI

THE

TRANSFORMERS



TRANSFORMERS

MO

OSITY



# THE TRANSFORMERS



# TRANSFORMERS

Long ago, in the early days of the war on Cybertron...

Megatron—returning from the death world Junkion with the Terrorcons in tow—ousts Scorponok and resumes his position as leader of the Decepticons. Meanwhile, after Optimus Prime and the Autobots are able to incapacitate the massive beast Trypticon unleashed by Scorponok, they race to ensure it can't be allowed to terrorize Cybertron any longer...

## MONSTROSITY

Illustrated by LIVIO RAMONDELLI

Story by: CHRIS METZEN & FLINT DILLE

Art and Cover by: LIVIO RAMONDELLI

Letters by: TOM B. LONG

Editor: JOHN BARBER

Special thanks to Hasbro's Aaron Archer, Jerry Jasin, Michael Verret, Ed Lane, Jon Furman, Joe Haxley, Andy Schmidt, Heather Hopkins, and Michael Kelly for their invaluable assistance.

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# THE DESOLATION OF HARMONEX.

IRONHIDE REPORT!

APPROACHING  
THE CREATURE  
NOW PRIME

THIS DAMN  
THING AIN'T  
MOVIN' BUT  
SOMETHIN'S  
NOT R.GHT.  
HERE

WHAT THE  
HELL ARE  
THESE  
THINGS?!

WE ASSUMED  
THEY WERE  
INDIGENOUS TO  
THE CAVERNS  
BENEATH  
TORAXXIS

BUT IT  
LOOKS LIKE  
THEY'RE BEING  
MANUFACTURED  
WITHIN  
TRYPTICON'S  
INTERNAL  
FOUNDRIES!

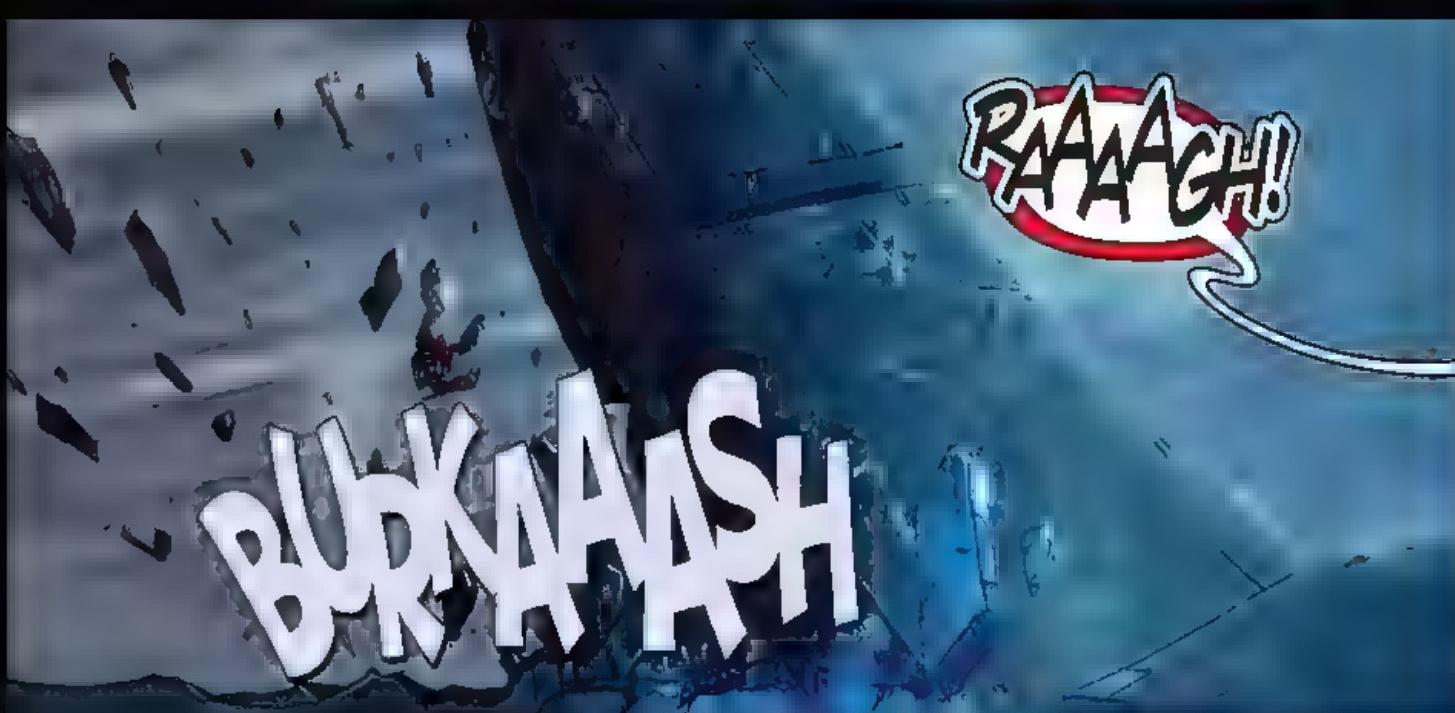
PRIME, E  
RATCHET'S R.GHT -  
WE'RE GONNA GET  
OVERRUN FAST

WE'RE  
IN DEEP  
TROUBLE  
HERE

UNDERSTOOD  
RONHIDE

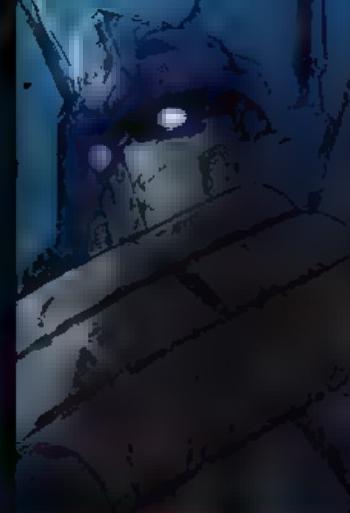
HOLD  
THE LINE -  
I'M ON MY  
WAY





THE MATRIX HAS FAILED.

AS I HAVE FAILED.



# THOOOM

HOW COULD  
IT END HERE...  
LIKE THIS?

AFTER ALL THE STRIFE...  
ALL THE SACRIFICE...

BELIEVING THAT MY  
LEADERSHIP WOULD  
MAKE AT LEAST SOME  
KIND OF DIFFERENCE...

WHAT IF  
DAI ATLAS  
WAS RIGHT?

WHAT IF THE  
MATRIX WAS  
WRONG

TO CHOOSE ME?

NO

THE MATRIX'S LIFE

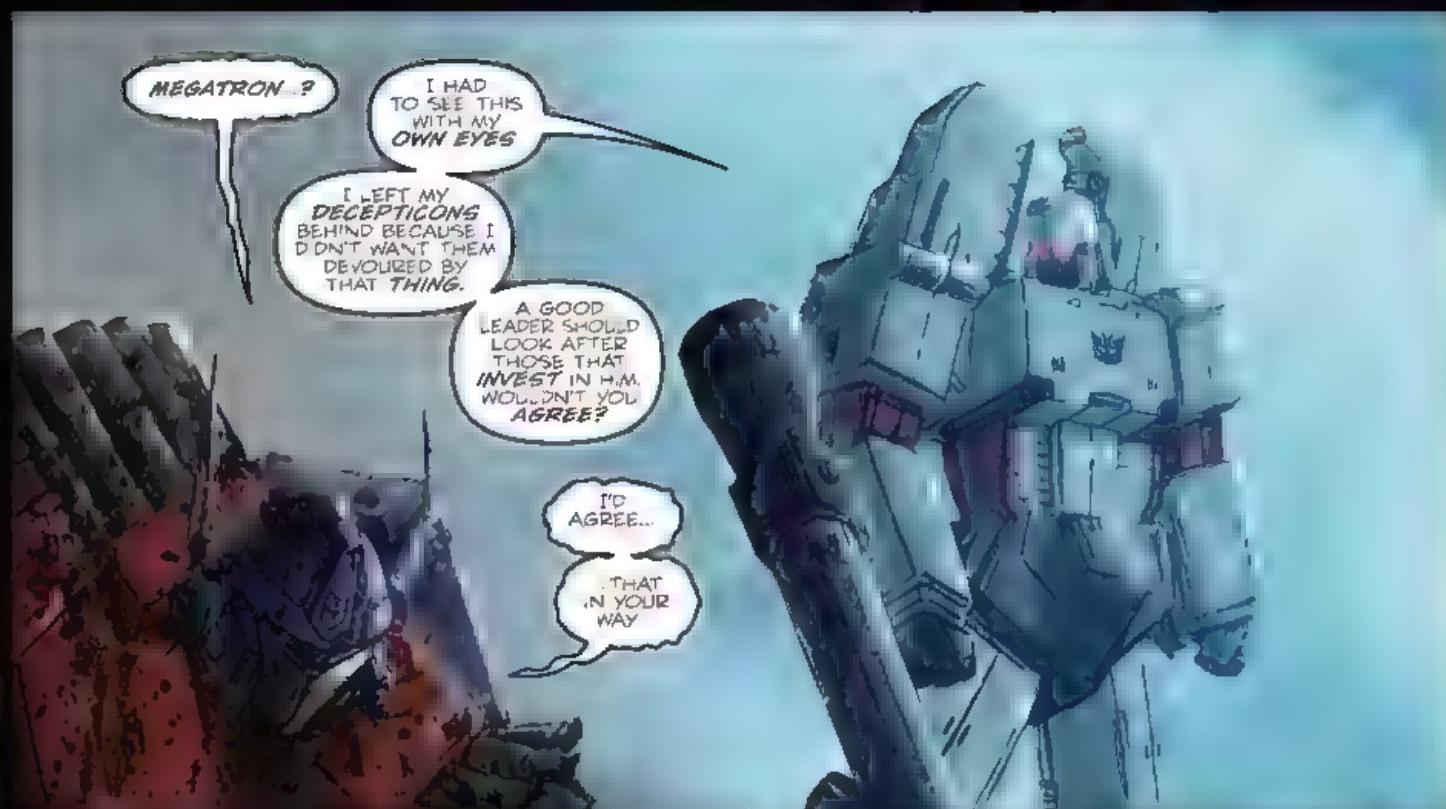
AND WHERE THERE'S LIFE.

...THERE IS HOPE...

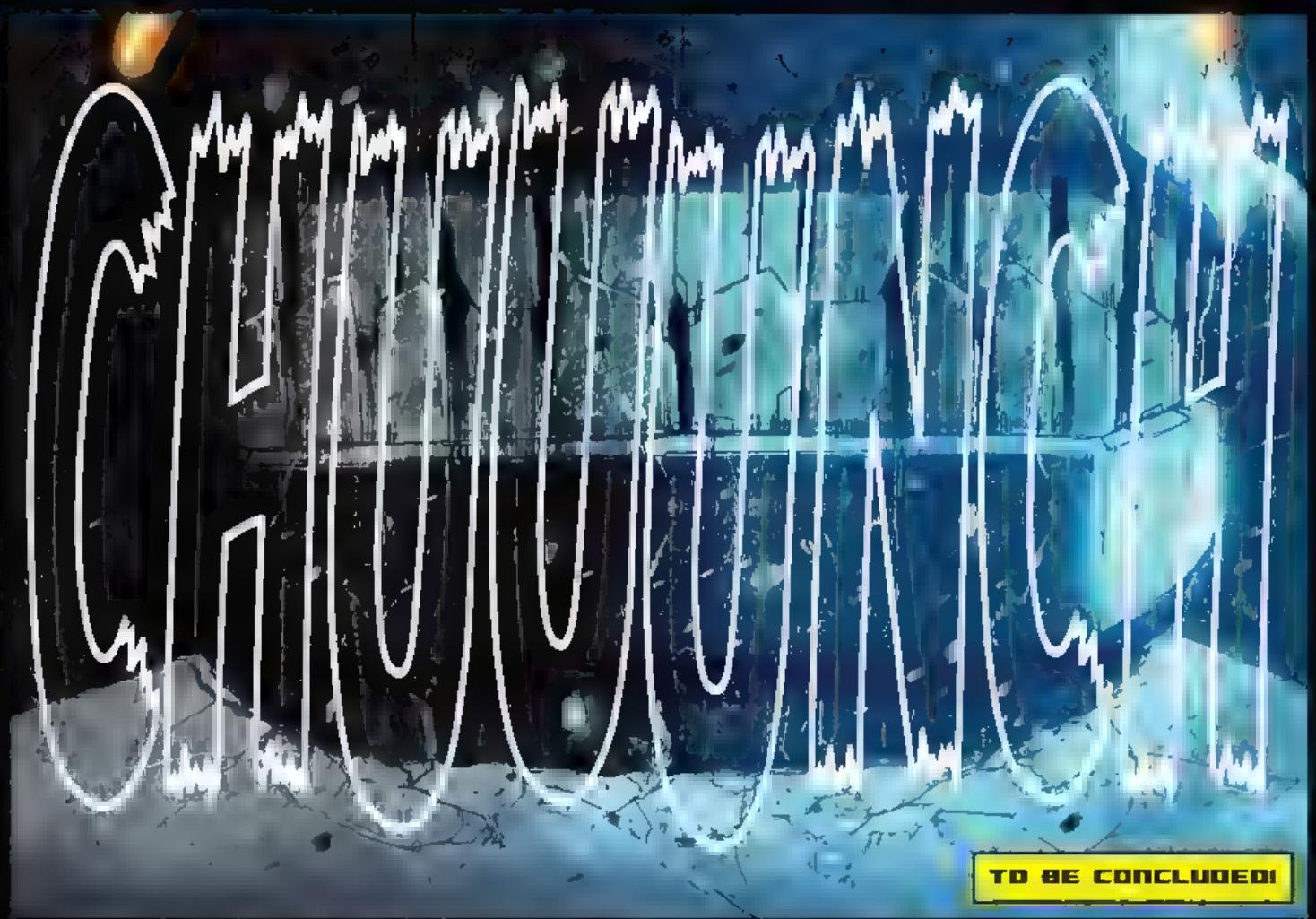
DYNOBOTS—



GRAAAGRRR!







IDW  
ISSUE #12

THE

TRANS



TRANS

FOR

M

FOR

ERS

MONSTROSITY



METZER  
DILLE  
RAMONOEGLI

# THE TRANSFORMERS



Long ago, in the early days of the war on Cybertron,

Megatron reclaims leadership of the Decepticons—and faces the ancient behemoth called Trypticon. Optimus Prime stages a last-ditch effort to use the Matrix itself against the monstrous creature—and fails. Only Grimlock and the Dynobots comprehend Trypticon's ways. As themselves encountered the creature, they now live in a constant struggle with their dark sides. As Grimlock and Megatron confront the beast—Trypticon's massive jaw bites down on them.

## MONSTROSITY

Chapter 12: BELLY OF THE BEAST

Story by: CHRIS METZEN & FLINT DILLE

Art and Cover by: LIVIO RAMONDELLI

Letters by: TOM B. LONG

Editor: JOHN BARBER

Special thanks to Hasbro's Aaron Archer, Jerry Jasin, Michael Verret, Ed Lane, Jon Furman, Joe Haxley, Andy Schmidt, Heather Hopkins, and Michael Kelly for their invaluable assistance.

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DEVOURRED

SWALLOWED WHOLE

THINGS ARE JUST STARTING TO GET INTERESTING.

LIFE... HAS TAKEN STRANGE TURNS, LATELY.

LOST HERE WITHIN THE BELLY OF THE BEAST... BUT STILL I LIVE.

NOT IF I CAN HELP IT, MEGATRON.

WE'VE BEEN SWALLOWED BY A TANIC PRIMORDIAL HORROR AND ALL YOU CAN THINK TO DO IS FIGHT ME?

YUP.

RAAAAGH!

I ALWAYS ADMIRED YOUR SINGLE-MINDEDNESS, GRIMLOCK.

BUT THAT'S ABOUT IT  
YOU PICKED THE WRONG DAY TO ANGER M-

SKREEE SKREEE SKREEE

THE DRAGON-BEASTS—  
THEY'RE INSIDE TRYPTICON'S SUPERSTRUCTURE!

YOU SOUND SCARED.

PLEASE.

BUT IF WE'RE GOING TO GET OUT OF THIS ALIVE WE'LL HAVE TO WORK TOGETHER

FINE

BUT AS SOON AS WE'RE CLEAR—  
I'M GONNA END YOU.

I LOOK FORWARD TO YOU TRYING, DYNOBOT.

SRRRAAAGH

SRRRAAAGH



"I BELIEVE IN H.M."

UNF!

SLAM

GRIMLOCK!

SLEEPING...  
CAN'T.

OH, NO—  
YOU DON'T  
GET OFF  
THAT EASY,  
GRIMLOCK.

ODDS ARE,  
I'M GOING  
TO NEED YOU  
TO GET OUT  
OF HERE.

FAIR  
ENOUGH.

LOOK—  
IT'S A  
MASSIVE  
PLASMA-  
CORE!

THIS  
MUST BE  
TRYPTICON'S  
POWER  
BASE!

THOSE  
TANKS!

IT'S  
VOLATILE  
ENERGON  
FROM THE  
CISTERN  
BENEATH  
TORAXXIS.

THAT STUFF  
HE GHTENS  
AGGRESSION—  
BOOSTS  
YOUR POWER  
LEVELS.

AND  
HE'S BEEN  
FEEDING  
OFF IT FOR  
MILLIONS  
OF YEARS.

THEN PERHAPS  
HE'S TASTED  
ENOUGH.

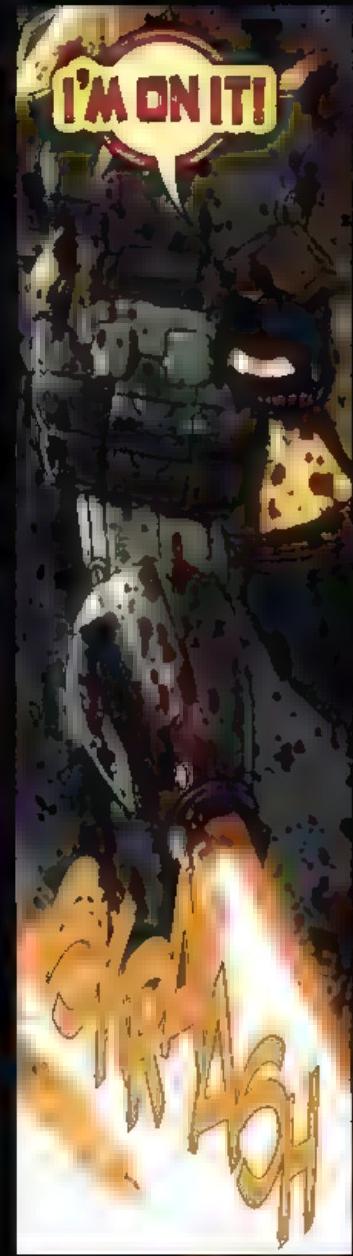
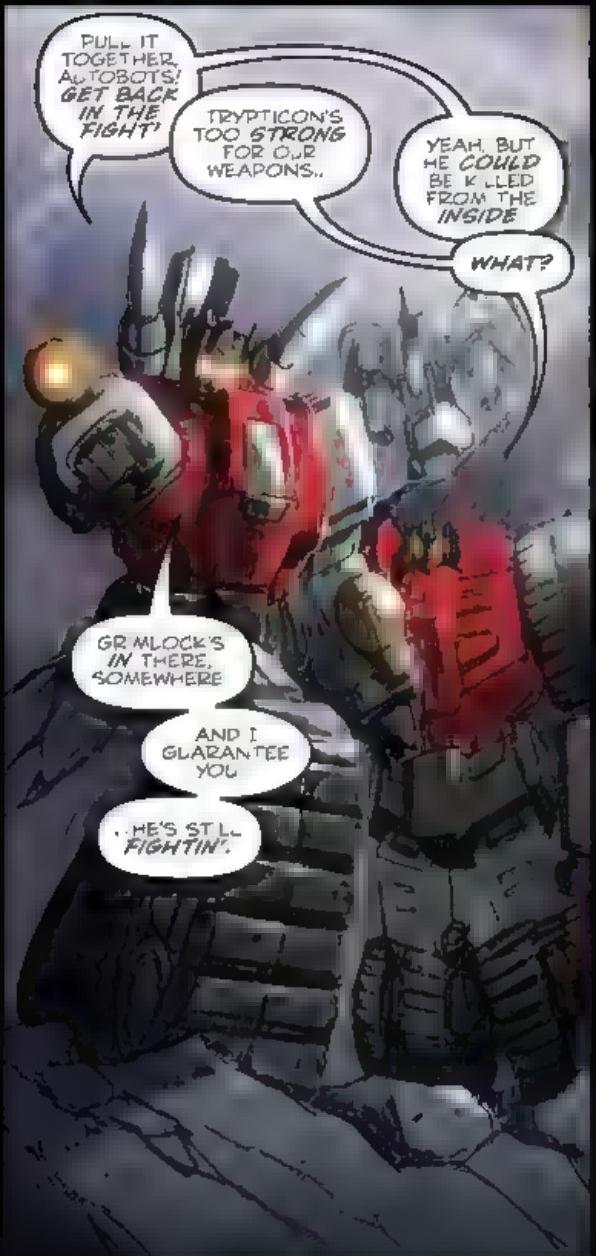
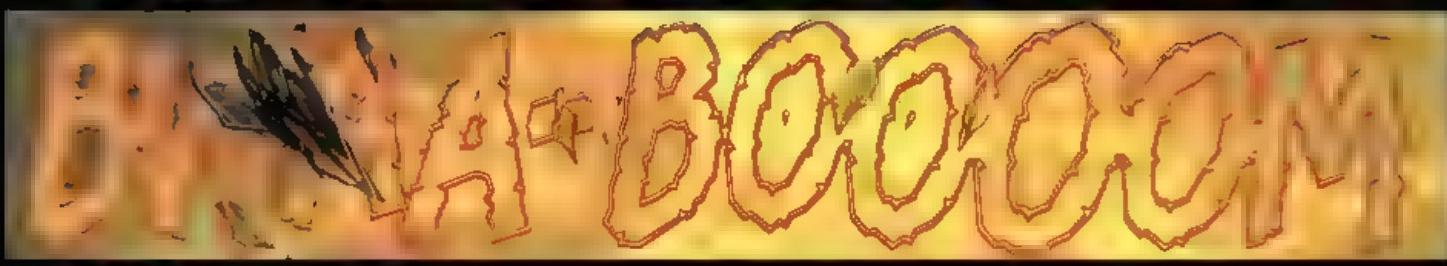
IF WE  
DESTROY  
THIS CORE—  
WE CAN SHUT  
TRYPTICON  
DOWN FOR  
GOOD!

YOU  
WITH  
ME?

SHUT  
UP AND  
COVER  
ME.

I'LL DO  
WHAT NEEDS  
DOIN'

MAKE IT  
FAST  
OUR TIME'S  
RUN OUT!





GERRAK



AS YOU CAN SEE, YOU ARE HOPELESSLY OUTNUMBERED.

YOUR FORCES ARE NEARLY DEPLETED OF WEAPONS AND AMMUNITION—AND NONE OF YOU ARE IN ANY CONDITION TO FIGHT ANY FURTHER.

BUT I RESPECT WHAT YOU FOUGHT FOR TODAY.

IN HONOR OF THAT, IF YOU DEPART NOW AND LEAVE TRYPTICON TO ME—I'LL LET YOU LIVE TO FIGHT ANOTHER DAY.

YOU'RE DELUSIONAL, MEGATRON!

YOU MAY HAVE US OUTGUNNED—

—BUT THERE'S NO WAY IN HELL WE'RE LEAVING THIS MONSTER IN YOUR HANDS!

LET 'EM HAVE IT...

...WITHOUT ALL THAT RAGE-JUICE—

—OH TRYPTICON'S NOTHING MORE THAN A GIANT HEAP OF SCRAP.

TRUE ENOUGH.

REST ASSURED—WE'LL SETTLE THE SCORE.

BUT WHAT OF YOUR VOW TO "END ME," GRIMLOCK?

IS THERE NO RAGE LEFT WITHIN YOU, EITHER?

BUT IT'LL BE ME THAT CHOOSES THE ARENA...

YOU AUTOBOTS—HELP ME GET PRIME UP AND OUT OF HERE.

NO USE IN ANYONE ELSE DYING TODAY.

WHAT ABOUT YOU AND YOUR DYNOBOTS'... CONDITION?

YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO BE SMART, RIGHT?

WELL, WHEN YER DONE FIXIN' PRIME, YOU CAN START ON US.

LEAP OF FAITH FOR US BOTH.

YOU WANT WE SHOULD MOW 'EM DOWN, LORD MEGATRON?

END THIS RIGHT HERE AND NOW?

NO.

LET THEM GO.

LET THEM CRAWL BACK TO IACON AND NURSE THEIR WOUNDS, SKYWARD...

"...SOON, THE GAME WILL BEGIN AGAIN."

"I WILL BRING WAR UPON THESE AUTOBOTS UNLIKE ANYTHING THEY CAN IMAGINE."

"AND IN THAT HOUR—MEGATRON SHALL AT LAST REIGN SUPREME."

LATER.

